No 61,840

THE TIMES

FRIDAY MAY 25 1984

20p



US bank fears send London shares plunging

By William Kay, City Editor

The London stock market registered its biggest fall for more than 10 years late yesterday afternoon, amid fears that more US banks might be in the same sort of difficulties that forced the rescue of Continental Illinois last week.

On Wall Street, there was strong selling of shares in three banks, Citicorp, Chase Manhattan and Manufacturers Hanover. This sparked falls elsewhere in New York, which soon spread to the US bond market.

The dollar, which had been firm in London earlier in the day in anticipation of higher interest rates, was caught up in the highly nervous mood.

A spokesman for Chase Manhattan Bank said: "We know of no reason why bank stocks are trading weakly." Asked if there were any reasons why Chase Manhattan's own stock was down $2⅞ to $38⅞, he replied: "None".

Another bank whose stock came in for selling was Morgan Guaranty. A spokesman there said: "We have no information about why our stock is falling and we have no difficulty with funding."

At the root of the problem lay growing concerns about international debts. Several of the big American banks have lent millions of dollars to finance trade and building projects in the Third World, particularly South America. Many of those debts are long overdue, and a solution seems further away than ever. This in turn is sapping confidence, tempting thousands of Americans to withdraw their savings for fear of a collapse.

These fears had a sudden impact on late trading in London. Wall Street opens at 3.30pm London time, by which time the FT 30-share index was down 10.3. It fell another 10.9 in the next 90 minutes, taking it down 21.2 on the day to 826.4. This is the biggest closing fall since March 1, 1974, the day after the first general election that year, when an indecisive verdict was delivered at the polls in response to a campaign fought by Mr Edward Heath on the theme "Who governs Britain?" The country was enduring a three-day week and a miners' strike.

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Although there was depression yesterday in the markets at the collapse of Wednesday's talks between Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, and Mr Arthur Scargill, the president of the National Union of Mineworkers, the main concern at the outset was the prospect of higher interest rates, coupled with adverse reaction to the speech by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to the Confederation of British Industry.

This was interpreted by some observers as suggesting the growth was replacing the fight against inflation at the top of the Government's economic priorities.

Worst hit were government stocks, which fell by up to £2 apiece. Leading industrial shares fell by as much as 12p. Sectors which suffered most were oils, stores, buildings and insurances.

Shares of the big four high street banks, Barclays, Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster, fell to their lowest levels this year.

In just 20 days, the *FT* index has dropped 96.4 from its peak of 922.8 struck on May 4.

Currency markets were in a turbulent state. The dollar was at the centre of the activity, reversing early gains to close down on the day. Sterling was fragile. It opened above the all-time low of $1.3730 recorded in New York on Wednesday. It managed to close in London 10 points up at $1.3815, and unchanged at 79.5 against a basket of leading currencies.

In the London money market, interest rates rose by nearly half a per cent at the longer end as the belief grew that the clearing banks may soon be forced to raise their base rates again.

Much of the speculaton became self-feeding, as dealers pointed out that some institutions appeared to be withdrawing their money from London to chase the higher interest rates in New York.

Rail unions accept pay offer

Disruption on the railways next week was averted when the two main unions accepted a 5.1 per cent pay offer and British Rail productivity conditions. There could still be action this year over planned cuts in the industry

Seamen call ferry strike

A 48-hour ferry strike, from next Wednesday, has been called by the National Union of Seamen, in protest at plans to denationalize Sealink services. Most Channel crossings will be affected.



Romania 'yes'

Romania is to take part in the Los Angeles Olympics in spite of a decision by the rest of the Soviet block to stay away

Sanctions warning, page 7

Gulf attack

The 17,000-ton Liberian-registered tanker Chemical Venture was attacked 20 miles off the Saudi Arabian coast by a rocket-firing F4 jet, thought to be Iranian Page 6

Zoo inquest

A verdict of accidental death was recorded at an inquest on Mr Mark Aitken, a zoo keeper, who was crushed by a bull elephant Earlier report, page 3

Kremlin tussle

Politburo hardliners have forced President Chernenko to abandon hopes for a revival of détente Page 6

Salvador aid

The House of Representatives has approved President Reagan's request for an extra $62m (£45m) in emergency military aid to El Salvador

Guardsmen guilty, page 6

Cox for Derby

Arthur Cox, who resigned as manager of Newcastle, having taken them to the first division, is to take over at Derby County, now in the third division

Cox's departure, page 25

Mitterrand seeks new EEC treaty

From Ian Murray
Strasbourg

President Mitterrand yesterday threw down a challenge to the EEC to work quickly towards political union. Speaking to a packed and enthusiastic European Parliament in Strasbourg, the French President called for a new treaty to carry a more united Community forward into the next century.

Among the subjects he wants to see included are health, education, justice, security and the fight against terrorism. Alongside this new "Super Europe" would be a permanent secretariat to coordinate foreign policy.

The speech in which he dealt briefly but firmly with the British budget problem, was in part aimed as a direct challenge to Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Preparations should begin, he said, among those countries who were interested, implying that if Britain did not want to play a full part in the Community it would be left on the sidelines.

He called the budget quarrel "petty" and set it against the backdrop of the greater challenges facing the Community. He contrasted his vision of Europe with the more narrow one of a free trade area

But diplomats did not expect quick results. For anything to happen a consensus among member states would be needed and this appears a long way off.

Mitterrand presses for union, page 6
Leading article, page 13

Scargill conciliatory over new pit talks

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Fresh talks are to take place between the National Union of Mineworkers and the coal board to try to break the deadlock in the 11-week pit strike, and there are signs that the miners are shifting their ground.

Union leaders responded with unexpected swiftness yesterday to a proposal from the board for three-a-side negotiations on *Plan for Coal*, the ten-year-old blueprint for the industry's future.

Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, said: "The NCB have now made an offer to talk about the dispute and have suggested that this might lead to a settlement of the present problem. That is not only an entirely new development but a first major step on their part towards reaching a solution to this problem".

The board insisted that the offer had been made during an abortive 65-minute meeting with the union executive two days ago, but coal board managers are not seeking to score points by questioning Mr Scargill's veracity.

However, they were heartened by the text of the miners' letter, which argued that "there could be no settlement" unless the board withdrew its plan to close 20 pits with the loss of 20,000 jobs.

Until now, the union has demanded withdrawal of the closures before talks. The change is regarded as more than semantic. If the miners can negotiate without pre-conditions, then a deal might be possible.

Mr Scargill was more conciliatory than for sometime. The union letter added: "Your suggeston that these talks might offer a prospect of finding a solution to the present problems is something entirely new and the union is pleased the board is finally prepared to talk about the dispute".

Discussions are expected to begin early next week, without Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the board. The three national officials of the union, – Mr Michael McGahey will meet a three-man team from the board, including the deputy chairman, Mr James Cowan, and the industrial relations director, Mr Ned Smith.

Mr MacGregor's absence may be regarded by the union as diplomatic in the light of clashes between him and Mr Scargill, although the make-up of the board side had already been determined.

Picketing was stepped up yesterday and 45 men were arrested outside Warsop colliery, north Nottinghamshire. Five miners tried to pass through 150 pickets,a and fights broke out. Two policemen were injured.

The board said that about 500 miners will be working in Derbyshire next week, normally a holiday week.

● Sir Terence Beckett, Director General of the Confederation of British Industry, insisted yesterday that the strike was having only marginal impact on industry, although some coal industry suppliers were being affected

Parliament, page 4

Three more Britons held by Libya

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Three more Britons have been detained in Libya. They were arrested about 10 days ago and have been held without charge, the Foreign Office admitted last night.

Mr Douglas Ledingham and Mr John Campbell, both businessmen, have been in custody since the start of the St James's Square siege last month. Whitehall officials said last night that other Britons had been arrested by Colonel Gadafi's police since the breach in diplomatic relations – but all had been charged with driving or alcohol affences and then released.

Two British diplomats, who have remained in Tripoli, and the Italian Embassy, which is acting for Britain, have been pressing for consular access and information on why the men have been held.

But similar requests on behalf of Mr Ledingham, local manager of British Caledonian, and Mr Campbell, who works for a British oil drilling company, have been ignored.

The latest arrests were on May 13, 14 and 15 but the Foreign Office did not disclose this earlier

The Foreign Office is also pressing for the release of three Britons arrested at Lagos airport, Nigeria, on Wednesday. Officials are in touch with the men's company, Bristow Helicopters.

Mr Kenneth Clark from Aberdeen, Mr Angus Paterson of Inverurie and Mr Barry Glover from Reigate are believed to have been arrested after the departure of an aircraft on which they had been working.

The roofless chamber of death

Rescue workers searching the Abbeystead site for survivors after the explosion which killed nine.

A stunned village flies its flag at half mast

By Ronald Faux

The flag on the church tower in St Michael's on Wyre flew at half mast yesterday over a little community shocked by tragedy.

Mr Alan Hands, licensee of the Grapes public house, said: "It was really a village outing. No one can grasp the fact that so many have been killed or badly injured. They were not just customers, they were all good friends".

At about 6pm on Wednesday 30 people from St Michael's and neighbouring farms met in the Grapes car park.

The visit to the Abbeystead water pumping station about 12 miles away had been organized by the parish council through the North West Water Authority and the invitation to anybody who wanted to join had been advertised in the window of the village shop.

Just before 6.30pm the party set out. "There was a lot of laughter, everybody was in a happy mood", Mr Hands said. Some left their cars in the park and joined friends in other vehicles. Three of the cars were still outside the Grapes yesterday.

At about 6.45pm they arrived in Garstang, where others were waiting to join them, and the party of 43, led by water board officials, went into the underground station at about 7.20pm.

Less than ten minutes later there was a violent explosion. The call received by the fire grigade was made at 7.37pm. By then nine people were dead.

Hardship is not new for St Michael's and the neighbouring community of Churchtown. Severe flooding in 1980 and 1983 badly damaged the area when the Wyre river burst its banks under the weight of water pouring from the hills of the Forest of Bowland.

Abbeystead station was part of a £4m water scheme opened by the Queen four years ago. She has sent a message of sympathy.

Four of the dead came from St Michael's. In one small street, Wyre Bank, which contains only four houses, the families in two have lost their menfolk. Two other people from the street were injured.

Mr Geoffrey Seed, the water authority's area engineer, who lived near Garstang, died as he guided the group through the station. His widow, Mrs Pat Seed, is well-known for her work raising funds for cancer research.

A sufferer from cancer herself and only recently released from hospital after an operation, her campaign has raised £2.5m.

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Lethal build-up of methane gas blamed for Abbeystead disaster

From Robin Young and Craig Seton, Abbeystead

A lethal accumulation of methane gas unwittingly pumped into an underground water station where 42 people were watching a demonstration was believed last night to have been responsible for the explosion that killed nine people and injured thirty-three at Abbeystead, near Lancaster, on Wednesday night.

As forensic scientists combed the rubble of the isolated outfall valve house in the Wyre Valley, Mr Bill Grenville, of the Health and Safety Executive, said: "We are almost certainly left with gas: Methane looks, quite a likely cause, although we are examining other possibilities".

Emergency services officers at the site, which is on land belonging to the Duke of Westminster, agreed that the disaster had all the hallmarks of a gas explosion.

The force of the blast threw 30 two-and-a-half-ton concrete roof beams of the underground building upwards through tons of topsoil before they collapsed into the devastated valve house below, trapping and crushing to death several of the victims.

Most of the dead and injured were from the village of St Michael's on Wyre, about twelve miles away. They had been taken to the valve house – built four years ago and part of a water transfer scheme worth £65m and opened by the Queen – by officials of the North West Water Authority.

The visitors had gone there to be reassured that the water transfer system was not responsible for contributing to the flooding of their village.

Mr George Mann, chairman of the water authority, said that the outing had been intended to have a "family flavour".

When rescuers arrived they found many of the injured crawling on their hands and knees on an embankment by the valve house.

Their clothes had been ripped from their bodies, their limbs were burnt and broken, and many had lost their hair in the flash of the explosion.

Ywo mem who had crashed through the metal mesh floor on which they had been standing into 20ft-deep water below were still alive when an ambulanceman and fieman swam to their aid and dragged them out.

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The water authority, which insisted yesterday that the cause of the explosion was unknown, set up its own inquiry. As well as calling in officials of the Health and Safety Executive it called back a London firm of structural engineers, Binnie and Partners, which had been consultants on the project, to carry out its own inquiry.

Water authority officials agreed that the tunnel leading to the valve house is not used regularly to transfer water four and a half miles from the River Lune to the Wyre at Abbeystead. The tunnel was known to be cracked, although lined with concrete, and ground water had seeped into it at the rate of 2! litres a minute even after repairs had been attempted.

No water has been transferred through the underground tunnel from the Lune to the Wyre for 15 to 21 days before the explosion, but to show the St Michael's villagers how the transfer system worked a demonstration was laid on.

Mr Alan Lacey, the district manager, who was one of the water authority team conducting the villagers round the works, had telephoned to a pumping station on the Lune and asked for water to be pumped through.

Mr Oliver Chippendale, superviser at the pumping station, said that after five or ten minutes Mr Lacey had telephoned again to say no water had emerged and that a larger pump should be engaged. After that Mr Chippendale heard nothing for 20 minutes.

When he telephoned the valve house to check that the water was coming through the call was answered by Mr John Nelson, a water engineer. In a frantic message lasting only a few seconds he shouted: "Get

Continued on back page, col 1

Radio error admitted by Prior

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr James Prior admitted publicly and privately yesterday that he had made an error in suggesting in a radio interview that he should be relieved of his job as Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

But at a meeting with Conservative MPs last night, Mr Prior made clear his determination to turn his mistake to advantage. He hoped he might be able to make a last attempt during the remaining months of his tenure to achieve progress, without being suspected in Ulster of further ambitions.

The doubts over his future dominated two uncomfortable examinations for Mr Prior, first during question time in the Commons and later at a private meeting of the Northern Ireland backbench committee.

In the House Mr Prior was criticized sharply by Labour and Unionist MPs for suggesting in the interview that he had probably done as much as he could do in Ulster.

He acknowledged his "indiscretions" and said that over the years he had made many injudicious remarks, but was cheered when he said that the people of Northern Ireland respected frankness and candour.

Mr Prior's long-time critics were well in evidence at the backbench committee. Mr George Gardiner, Mr Nicholas Budgen and Mr Christopher Murphy, who opposed the establishment by Mr Prior of the Ulster Assembly, praised his personal courage but made clear they agreed with him that three years in the job would be long enough.

Parliament, page 4

Spanish tragedy 'not caused by oil'

From Richard Wigg
Madrid

An official team of doctors investigating the causes of a mysterious wasting disease which has killed about 350 people in Spain in the past three years has suggested that adulterated cooking oil could not have been to blame.

The epidemiologists argue that an examination of distribution routes of the oil, sold in plastic bottles by door-to-door salesmen, leads to contradictions.

In their report they said they could not justify the fact that in Catalonia where some of the oil is prepared and sold widely there were no known victims, whereas when the oil was distributed in the Madrid area there were widespread cases of poisoning. The doctors confessed to paradoxes they could not now explain.

The doctors conclude that being affected by the toxic disease apparently has nothing to do with any oil, but with something relating to the geographical area where the epidemic arose, something necessarily and exclusively consumed in that area, only by those suffering from the symptoms.

The findings were prepared for the official national body handling the so-called "toxic syndrome" which has baffled Spanish and other experts. They were leaked to the press by a Madrid victims' association.

A total of 23,000 people have been affected, many needing long stays in hospitals as their muscles, nervous systems, and skin conditions deteriorated.

The team's findings, if accepted, will inevitably revert attention to the theories of doctors who disagreed with the majority view and suggested that investigations should have been directed more towards pesticides.

A total of 42 people, chiefly businessmen involved in producing and distributing cooking oil, derived originally from illegal imported oils intended only for industrial purposes, still await trial on public health offence charges.

Of these, 28 are on bail, four have gone missing. Although they were arrested in the summer of 1981 the trial has not been expected to take place before late this year or early 1985.

A legal battle fought for the victims has not resolved the question of whether any high-ranking official from the Ministries of health, economics, and trade or agriculture should go on trial. All officials have maintained they had no responsibility as far as the tragedy was concerned.

Station blast survivor tells of being engulfed in ball of fire

Mrs Pat Kaylor, aged 50, from St Michael's-on-the-Wyre, near Garstang, Lancashire, told yesterday of a ball of fire that engulfed her in the Abbeystead explosion on Wednesday night.

She and her party, she said, were standing just inside the pumping station's main doors at the start of the visit talking to officials.

"Some went through another doorway. I never got that far.

"We were there for a total of about ten minutes and then there was this dull sort of thud and a big ball of fire came out of this other doorway and blew us out of the entrance and blew bits off cars in the park about fifteen yards away. It blew one person right down the incline outside.

"You know when you are trying to light a gas cooker and you're slow getting a match to the flame? You get a whoomph. It was like that only much bigger.

"I didn't look or go back into the building. My hands were burnt and I couldn't help or think.

"People were lying about. I couldn't recognize many because they were burnt like me and their hair was fused together. We could hear them calling and groaning from inside.

"Most of us had our clothes burnt or blown off – I don't know which. I think I only survived because I was near the main entrance.

"It just blew us out of the doorway. But in that split second – I must have taken it in – we were trying to scrabble out as well as being blown out. I remember seeing somebody with his shirt on fire rolling on the ground."

Mrs Kaylor is being treated for burns to her hands, face, and legs.

Mr John Holmes, aged 37, also from St Michael's, was at the centre of the explosion. He was waiting in a chamber through which water was going to be pumped in a pipe.

"We were waiting and we got a little bit worried because nothing was happening. Next thing there was a big roar.

"The chamber was in two parts; I was in the left-hand side, away from the door.

"I was engulfed in flames. I could feel my skin singeing. It felt like red hot pokers.

"I felt I was not going to be able to get out. The whole thing must have lasted only three or four seconds but it seemed like eternity.

"The roof gave way and there was nothing there. Suddenly I was in daylight and out – I don't quite know how.

'I couldn't recognize people because they were burnt like me, their hair fused together, their clothes blown or burnt off'

"I saw people who had all their clothes ripped off by the flames. I looked down and I saw mine had gone as well. I borrowed car keys from one of the others and managed to drive to the nearest houses.

"I knocked on the door and told the person that answered: 'For God's sake get us some help . . . There's been an explosion and there are about 40 people in it'.

"We drove back to the scene and directed traffic and supervised ambulances. The local nurse came down and all the villagers who could help."

Mr John Drinkle, a local farmer who was one of the first on the scene, said: "There was a great big hole blown in the ground with concrete blocks everywhere. "One chap had been blown under a car and we lifted it so that he could crawl out. There were bodies all over, people with broken limbs, covered in blood, and with their clothing burnt.

"Some of them knew me and they said 'Hallo, John', but I couldn't recognize them because their hair had gone, and their eyebrows had gone, and their skin was peeled back."

Divisional Officer Chris Guinas, aged 51, from the Lancaster Fire Brigade, was the first senior fire officer on the scene. "It's usually like heaven there," he said, "you don't expect to see carnage.

"There were casualties everywhere, crawling around the embankment like ants. Their clothes were burnt and hanging off their bodies and their flesh was burnt. They were helpless.

"There were only two ambulances to start with so we had to wrap the survivors in blankets. Some casualties were still inside on the metal grille above the water, but some were trapped underneath the concrete beams and they were badly mutilated and dead."

He said that before heavy lifting gear arrived from Lancaster to remove the 30 two-and-a-half-ton beams that had been lifted in the air by the force of the explosion and collapsed back inside the underground chamber, ladders had to be used to get to casualties still inside.

Mr Guinan described the rescue of two men – severely injured and barely conscious – who were seen in the water beneath the metal grille but in the far corner so that they could not be reached.

Leading Fireman David Saville, from Lancaster, and an unnamed ambulanceman were lowered into the water and swam across to the two survivors.

"They were in very bad shape and barely moving", Mr Guinan said. "One had a broken leg and severe burns and the other was burnt and blue with cold".

The fireman and the ambulancemen gripped the two men and swam with them back to a ladder which had been lowered from the shattered grille. They were then lifted out and hauled to the ground above.

Later, three more bodies were found under water lying in the silt at the bottom of the water chamber.





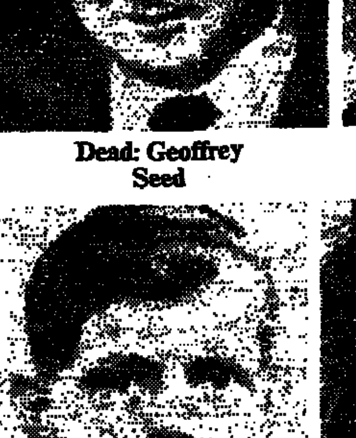
Dead: John 'Will' Myerscough

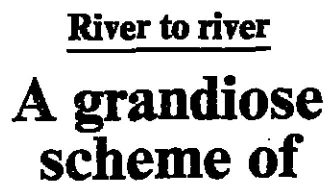
Dead: George Lacey

Dead: Geoffrey Seed

Dead: Mark Eckersley

Seriously injured: Thomas Eckersley

Injured: Frank Coupe

Injured: Edith Tyson

Injured: James Gardner

Injured: Mary Gardner

Injured: Elsie Rowlinson

Mr Guinan added that he had been at home when the alarm was raised. He set off in his own car, arriving at the scene with the first fire tender.

"There was only one person who seemed a little bit coherent", he said, "but I couldn't get much out of him. Everybody else I was was either dead or injured".

The biggest problem had been the danger from the roof beams that had fallen back into the underground chamber, smashing through the heavy-duty wire grille on which many of those who were killed or injured had been standing.

Those who died

The nine people who died in the explosion were named by police yesterday. They were:

Mr Geoffrey Standing, of Silverdale Close, Leyland, Preston; Mr George Allan Lacey, of Yewlands Drive, Garstang; Mr John Myerscough, of Garstang Road, St Michael's on Wyre; Mr Bert Tomlinson, aged 63, and his wife Edna, aged 59, of Churchtown, near St Michael's; Mr Geoffrey Seed, of Hill View Road, Garstang; Mark Eckersley, aged 12, of Fairfield Farm, St Michael's, Mr Bill McGarry, aged 55, of Wyre Bank, St Michael's and Mr Bill Mason, 60, also of Wyre Bank.

Plastic surgeon's task

Worst burns since Sir Galahad

A plastic surgeon dealing with most of the survivors of the Abbeystead explosion described yesterday the stark rule of thumb doctors use to assess burn victims; chanced of recovery: they added the percentage of the body area burnt to the patients age.

If the total is more than 100, "you've got trouble", Mr Andrew Howcroft, consultant plastic surgeon at the Royal Preston Hospital, said.

He is one of a team of three called to help at Lancaster Royal Infirmary. None of the 27 explosion victims there fits his equation, but all are seriously burnt, and one is in intensive care.

One woman is burnt over 60 per cent of her body. Another has the entire depth of her skin burnt off over 30 per cent. The deepest burns in fact hurt the least, because the nerve endings are destroyed.

Mr Howcroft, aged 38, with nine years' experience of plastic surgery, said he could think of no recent comparable disaster involving burns since the bombing of the Sir Galahad during the Falklands war.

He joined the Lancaster hospital's administrator, Mr Martin Dunkley, in praising the working of the emergency plan put into operation at 8pm on Wednesday night when Mr Dunkley was telephoned at home.

Several existing patients were discharged or transferred to make bed room, an about 75 off-duty staff were called in to work through the night.

Mr Howcroft said: "I arrived at approximately 10.15pm and by that time all the patients were in beds. All had drips up and were being resuscitated. That speaks very highly for the rescue services and the people who met the situation here in Lancaster."

He said that his team was concentrating first on saving lives by replacing lost body fluid and Lancaster blood bank was "almost drained" of plasma on Wednesday night.

Yesterday Mr Howcroft began the long process of skin grafting, where possible transferring skin from healthy areas of the body to the burnt patches.

The first patients should be leaving hospital in about three weeks. The worst will not be fully recovered for a year

He said: "We haven't taken a breather yet and I don't know when we will. This is an ongoing emergency for at least a week."

River to river

A grandiose scheme of the 1960s

By John Witherow

The transfer of water from the River Lune, which flows from Cumbria into the Irish Sea, to the Wyre to the south was one of the grandiose schemes of the 1960's to meet the rising demand for water in the conurbations of south Lancashire.

The idea, rather like the national grid was to ensure that the ever-increasing industries of Blackburn, Preston and Blackpool would never dry up and would not have to "steal" water from Greater Manchester.

It was also thought that the working population would demand more water for washing machines and diswashers as the consumer revolution embraced the back streets.

The recession however has largely put paid to the increase in demand and the North West Water Authority, which inherited the scheme from a hotchpotch of water authorities, finds that expected water shortages of the 1980s have been postponed

The killer gas

Methane blamed as main suspect

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Methane gas, the main natural cause of underground explosions and a scourge to generations of miners, is the prime suspect in the Abbeystead disaster.

Odourless and invisible, but highly inflammable, methane is produced from the decomposition of cellulose. It builds up in the decay of vegetation at ground level and in the pores of rock below the Earth's surface. It is most common, and most hazardous to man, in coalfields.

It becomes potentially explosive when it forms between 5 and 15 per cent of the atmosphere. In British coal mines, it causes concern when it registers 1.25 per cent and a mine would be evacuated if the reading reached 2.5 per cent.

The location of the pumping station in the Forest of Bowland suggests a likelihood of methane.

One mining engineer said yesterday that its position underground and its proximity to a valley bottom were conditions in which methane was likely to exist. Some coal was known to exist in parts of the underground area through which the station's pipeline ran, at depths of as much as 500ft.

Seepage of methane into the pipeline or the pumping station might be possible from the surrounding strata, another mining source said. Inspectors from the Health and Safety Executive were testing the immediate area of the blast for gas traces last night.

The executive last inspected the station in July, 1981, and found nothing untoward. "It is a low-risk establishment", an official said. "There are no hazardous substances used or stored there and we would not consider it a potentially dangerous place".

The executive will investigate the accident and the investigation report will be published.

Methane gas is detected in underground workings either by the Davy lamp or by the methanometer.

Houghton backs teachers' pay inquiry

By Richard Garner

The time has come for a new independent inquiry into teachers' pay, Lord Houghton, who chaired the inquiry which gave the profession rises of about 30 per cent, said yesterday.

Lord Houghton was speaking on the tenth anniversary of the establishment of his inquiry as pressure grew from local authorities for the current claim to go to arbitration.

The teachers want a phased restoration of pay to the levels set by Lord Houghton's inquiry which would require a 31 per cent increase.

Meanwhile, the policy committee of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities supported moves to take the claim to arbitration and called for the management panel of the Burnham Committee, which negotiates pay, to meet as soom a possible.

Mr Douglas McAvoy, acting general secretary of the 235,000-strong National Union or Teachers, whose members ended a three-day strike in 224 schools yesterday, said that a quarter of the 104 local education authorities in England and Wales favoured arbitration.

Lord Houghton, who was speaking at a press conference organized by the union said: "I am quite convinced that enough time has gone by since the 1974 inquiry to justify another one. If it is delayed then the catching up process and the extent of the revision necessary will be all the greater and all the more difficult."

Lord Houghton said that his one regret was that no mechanism had been set up in the 1974 inquiry to allow negotiaions to be conducted more equitably.

"When dispute arises between government and public services, there should be some means of referring to the independent element of arbitration."

The local authorities have refused arbitration, or to increase their 4.5 per cent offer.

At yesterday's AMA meeting, however, a motion backing arbitration was supported without the Conservative minority group voting against it.

After the press conference, union members lobbied MPs and the National Association of Schoolmasters-Union of Women Teachers, which told members to finish work an hour early to commemorate the anniversary of the Houghton inquiry, held a rally in Central Hall, Westminster.

Threat of exams disruption

Polytechnic and college lecturers will abandon voluntary duties, distrupting summer examinations if any of their colleagues at North London Polytechnic are jailed for refusing to indentify students photographed at a recent picket

Mr Justice Mars-Jones will give judgement today on whether two heads of department and 12 course tutors are legally bound to reveal the identities of 18 students alleged to have taken part in mass picket which prevented Mr Patrick Harrington, a National Front member, from attending lectures at the North London Polytechnic.

As Mr Harrington defied another noisy demonstration to attend the last lectures of the academic year, Mr David Triesman, the London region secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, threatened "the most major industrial response" if any of the lecturers went to prison.



Penelope Keith with her portrait by John Edwards at the Royal Society of Portrait Painters' exhibition at the Mall Galleries, London, which opens today. (Photograph: John Voos).

Investigation launched into CPSA's lurch to left

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

An investigation has been launched into elections in the Civil and Public Services Association which last week gave left-wingers a landslide victory over the ruling right-wing leadership.

The first meeting yesterday of the new executive, on which the left has a 23 to 6 majority, heard that various complaints about the conduct of the election had been referred to the union's accountants who act as returning officers in the election.

Mrs Kate Losinska, the union's right-wing president, who narrowly held the seat in a contest with Mr Kevin Roddy, a Militant Tendency supporter, said last night that the election was a mess.

The right's 24 to 5 majority on the executive of what is the largest Civil Service union was wiped out in the election, although only 2,000 or so votes swung control to the left in a 25 per cent poll. One member of the union's "Daylight" group, which represents the right, failed by 10 votes to retain her seat on the executive.

The complaints about the election centre mainly on an unusually large number of returns which arrived after the closing date May 11. The right believes that those votes, particularly from Post Office members, would benefit their candidates, but left-wingers said last night that the effect would have been marginal.

Deduction of fines from benefit pay proposed

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A proposal that court fines should be deducted at source from supplementary benefit to reduce fine faulting, was put forward at the conference of the Justices' Clerks' Society in Blackpool yesterday.

The clerks, chief legal advisers to magistrates in England and Wales, expressed concern over the large increase in fine defaulting, probably as a result of unemployment. In one court the number of defendants sentenced to prison for not paying fines was six times the number sentenced to prison directly for other offences.

Mr John Friel, clerk to the Nottingham justices, said that in Mansfield last year, 750 committal warrants were executed, of which 323 defendants served all or part of a prison sentence for fine defaulting. That compared with a total of 56 defendants jailed for other offences.

Mr Friel said: "These are very troubling statistics and I would hazard a guess that the vast majority are unemployed".

He urged consideration of the introduction of a system whereby fines could be attached to the payment of benefit

Ulster police find biggest explosives haul

Police were questioning several people last night after an informer led them to the biggest single explosives find in Northern Ireland (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

The informer gave details of four ammunition and two explosives dumps in co Tyrone and, in carefully coordinated swoops by police and army, two tons of explosive were found. Also uncovered in searches between Carrickmore and Six-Mile-Cross were 1,600 rounds of ammunition, two weapons, detonators and other bomb-making equipment.

Officer quits Police Federation

From Stewart Tendler, Scarborough

The senior Police Federation official who spoke of "our coloured brethen" and "nig-nogs" during a debate on Wednesday at the federation's annual conference yesterday resigned all his posts with the body.

Inspector Peter Johnson, of Durham, left the conference in Scarborough after tendering his resignation. He was one of two contenders in the recent elections for the chairmanship of the federation and had just completed 18 months serving on a Home Office working party on race relations.

Mr Leslie Curtis, the conference chairman, told the 1,000 delegates yesterday that the federation dissociated itself from the remark.

A spokesman for Durham police said that Mr Eldred Boothby, the Chief Constable, had no comment to make. If any complaint is made it will be investigated by the force.

Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds and parliamentary adviser to the federation, told the conference that the worst injuries endured by the police were not physical but "verbal knives between the shoulder blades" from people accusing them of exceeding their authority, of terror tactics or, " to quote Mr Scargill, 'behaving like the Nazi Gestapo' ".

Allegations of this kind were absurd and dangerous nonsense, Mr Griffiths said, but they were picked up and became part of the official record of the Commons.

He said that in 20 years "I have never known a time when so virulent an undercurrent of hostility had run so strongly on the Opposition benches."

In a speech which ended with a noisy standing ovation from the conference Mr Griffiths was clearly reflecting the frustrations of delegates haunted by the miners' dispute. He said that the police were not enforcing government industrial policy.

Left stays at top in Aslef

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The leadership of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) looks certain to remain in control of the left following the election of Mr Neil Milligan as a probable successor to Mr Ray Buckton as general secretary.

Mr Milligan, who represents the union's members on Southern Region and London Transport, will take over as assistant general secretary at the end of the year but under union custom and practice is almost certain to take over from Mr Buckton, when the general secretary retires.

In the election for a successor to Mr Don Pullen, Mr Milligan polled 13,060 votes to the 7,645 won by Mr Bill Ronksley, the communist president of the union

Mr Milligan, aged 57, started work on the railways as a fireman more than 40 years ago, has been a full-time Aslef official for 19 years.

Divorce Bill

Mr Leo Abse, MP, was quoted on May 22 as saying that Sir Patrick Mayhew QC, the Solicitor General, had suggested that "an opinion expressed *ex cathedra* by a judge in evidence to Parliament" should be circulated by solicitors and be regarded as binding.

In debate on the Government's Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill Sir Patrick said the Law Society might "do better" to consider publicizing the views of Sir John Arnold, President of the Family Division, as to how courts would interpret the new Bill, rather than the doubts expressed, if it wished to allay solicitors' fears that the Bill would resurrect "conduct" in divorce courts.

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 700 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 9.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore S$6.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100



Guarantee for five years proposed to end repeated house surveys

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

House buyers should be provided with a five-year guarantee against defects instead of having to pay for a survey, Mr John Thomas, vice-chairman of the Anglia Building Society, proposed yesterday.

He said that such a scheme could come into operation in the next 10 years. The present system, when the same house was often surveyed for three or four different buyers, was absurd, he argued.

There is increasing pressure for change. The Building Societies' Association is proposing that societies should be allowed to carry out a range of services for house buyers, including surveys, conveyancing and estate agency work.

The conveyancing committee set up by the Government to examine ways in which non-solicitors can carry out conveyancing is also looking into ways of simplifying and speeding up house transfers. It is specifically examining the survey system.

Mr Thomas, who is also housing spokesman for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, said that he envisaged a system where the seller, before putting his home on the market, paid for a survey including a valuation of the property.

The property would then be put on sale with the report and an insurance against defects for five years.

"The sale particulars would therefore offer the property with a guarantee and it would, I believe, sell for a higher price than one without a guarantee. Indeed, buyers would not unnaturally become suspicious of a seller who sought to sell without the backing or a seller's survey", Mr Thomas said.

He suggested that buyers would like the system because they would not, in normal cases, need their own survey; sellers would like it becausse of the one survey and the prospect of a reliable sale; agents offering the service would like it because they would achieve more instructions.

The whole concept would be to provide a buyer with a short, clear report designed to satisfy him that, for the indemnified period, the property would remain sound, as was the case with most homes.

"The survey should not be a full structural inspection to tell everyone that, for example, the bath plug is missing, the windows can be closed and the doorknobs work, for I do not believe that most buyers are concerned about such padding in reports. If that detail is required then a purchaser must commission his own survey", Mr Thomas said.

Fire cost £18m

A fire at tea and food warehouse in Banbury, Oxfordshire, caused more than £18m worth of damage, police revealed yesterday.

Hat trends: Velvet and veil with a winning hand, a velour saucer with a wire twirl and a silver bandeau with an osprey feather, from Philip Somerville's new autumn collection. (Photographs: Suresh Karadia).

Curbs on doctors' deputies dropped

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Deputizing services used by general practitioners at nights and weekends are to be mnonitored by new committees, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, announced yesterday.

He has, however, dropped proposals that would heavily restrict the amount doctors could use the services.

Under the original proposals, which were attacedk by family doctors, single-handed GPs and doctors in partnerships of two would normally have been restricted to using the services three nights a week and alternate weekends, while doctors in partnerships of three or more would have normally been expected to provide their own cover.

Under the new rules family practitioner committees are being told that as at present doctors should not be allowed to use deputies every night and weekend.

But the committees are being given wide flexibility in how far they can permit doctors to use services, taking into account their age and the demand for out-of-hours calls.

Deputizing services will be monitored by a subcommittee made up half of doctors and half of laymen, with no doctor who has a financial interest in a deputizing service being permitted to sit on it.

Consents to use the service will be reviewed annually, and a liaison officer will be appointed to make unscheduled checks that deputizing serviecs are keeping to agreed procedures.

Doctors working as deputies will have to have had at least six months experience of general practice.

Mr Clarke said that legislation going through Parliament would make family practitioner committees directly responsible to ministers through the FPCs rather than as present to local professional committees.

Glut will force egg prices down

By Kenneth Gosling

An egg glut could occur from next week with price benefits for shoppers, thanks to a diversion of supplies normally produced for the Middle East market. Prices of larger sized eggs will be unchanged but prices of size three eggs will drop by 2p a dozen, size four by 6p and the smaller sizes five, six and seven by 8p, according to Goldenlay Eggs, Britain's largest egg farmer cooperative.

Goldenlay said yesterday that the price reduction was the largest for many months

Big quantities produced in Finland and the eastern block nations for the Middle East are now being channelled into Europe.

With prices dropping in The Netherlands, West Germany and France, those countries are exporting eggs to Britain where the market has been buoyant.

The Eggs Authority said that size three eggs were 94.8p a dozen in supermarkets last week; size four 91.2p

Companies recruit key staff abroad

By Richard Evans

GEC and Plessey are recruiting specialist workers from abroad because of the skill shortage in Britain. Experts in electronics, computer science and some engineering fields are being hired in Australasia, the United States and Europe.

Mr George Pritchard, a senior manager at GRC's electronics and computer research laboratory at Wembley, north-west London, said yesterday that for every two jobs in electronics and computer science, only one could be filled by Britons.

"There are just not enough people of the right discipline coming out of British universities."

Mr Barry Rogers, personnel director for Plesseys, said that the company had 3,500 scientists and engineers who were "the life blood for the future". But, he added: "We could have used another 700 if we could have got them in recent years."

The firm was 10 per cent short in recruiting such specialists and that was likely to increase because of the reduction in 18-year-olds during the next decade.

Mr Rogers said: "We have only in the last three months got going in earnest in overseas recruitment. We have recruited 43 engineers from Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

"We are currently running recruitment activities in Ireland and Belgium."

If the company could not get sufficient key technologists, its ability to recruit other staff would be diminished, Mr Rogers said.

In the short term graduates from other disciplines had to be trained, he said.

"In the long term a great deal of work has to be done in the educational sector. Far too many boys and girls are giving up maths and physics before O level and so shutting themselves off for ever from the best employment opportunities we have had for a long time."

Employers seek exam reforms

By Edward Townsend

Britain's engineering employers today enter the educatin debate with a call for the abolition of O level and CSE examinations and the establishment of a national system of pupil assessment.

The Engineering Employers Federation wants the new system to cover the whole population at the age of 16+, and be based on a single examination system and records of achievement.

The federation's proposals are in response to the recent declaration by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, that the messages given by employers and parents about school examinations needed to be "unscramble".

The federation says that the present GCE and CSE exams gave insufficient emphasis to "understanding, application of knowledge, transferable skills (such as problem solving) and other non-academic qualities essential for adult life.

Pantomime cow 'killed' by farmers

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

A pantomime cow was "sacrificed" on the steps of the Welsh Office in Cardiff yesterday as farmers from Dyfed demonstrated against the European Economic Community's cut in milk quotas.

The farmers, from Wales's most rural county, had planned to bring live cattle to Cardiff, but decided that the long journey would cause them too much suffering.

Earlier in the week they had trapped Mr Michael Jopling, the Minister of Agriculture, in a small Dyfed village for more than two hours as they poured thousands of gallons of milk down drains.

A document prepared by Dyfed County Council claims that the cuts will cost its farmers more than £13m in lost income. Dyfed has 4,000 of the 6,800 dairy farms in Wales and most of them have fewer than 50 cows.

The council says that hundreds of jobs will be threatened, including some at the five creameries in the county.

"A depressed economy in Dyfed will have a debilitating effect on the social, cultural and environmental aspects of life", the document says.

Keeper killed by 'aroused' elephant

Mr Mark Aitken, aged 22, a zoo keeper, died after a sexually-aroused Indian bull elephant crushed him on an iron rail, an inquest at Ashford, Kent, was told yesterday.

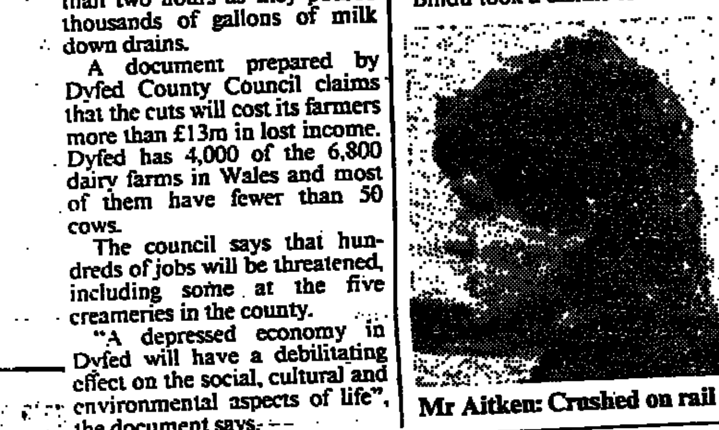
Mr Aitken died when the elephant, Bindu, wrapped his trunk around him and pulled him to the fence at Mr John Aspinall's private zoo park at Port Lympne near Ashford.

Off-duty police sergeant Michael Barry told the inquest: "on a visit to the zoo with my family I saw a bull elephant in an aggraveted state. It was sexually aroused and banging its head on a fence".

Mr Pat O'Brian, aged 25, a colleague of Mr Aitken said: "Bindu took a dislike to me and I was told by Mark to stay way from him. On April 7 Mark and I went into the elephant house about 1.30pm to see if everything was all right. It was just a check.

"Bindu's yard was ful of muck and so Mark got a wheelbarrow to shovel it out. I heard an aggressive 'get off me' type shout. He yelled 'Bindu'. I ran up as soon as I heard it.

"The elephant backed away and Mark's body was on the ground. I pulled it as far away from Bindu as I could. I was worried Bindhu would drag him into the yard. It only took a few seconds for me to get to Mark's body."



Mr Aitken: Crushed on rail

Mr Aitken who lived at a staff flat at the zoo, was injured by another elephant last November.

Senior elephant keeper Mr Martin Smith told the inquest: "Bindu was going through a type of adolescence. He was a bit cocky and pushy."

Dr Marshall King, consultant pathologist at the William Harvey Hospital, Ashford, said: "Death was caused by multiple injuries and was instantaneous.

"His injurfes were consistent with an elephant trunk wrapped around his waist. The animal tried to lift him up and a rail was forced into his neck and shoulder."

Martin girl friend freed by Court of Appeal

Sue Stephens, the former girl friend of David Martin, the gunman, has her six-months jail sentence suspended by the Court of Appeal yesterday. The two men jailed with her for handling stolen goods for Martin's benefit had their nine-month sentences reduced to six months and suspended.

All three lost their appeals against conviction, but the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, sitting with Mr Justice Mustill and Mr Justice Otton, said: "No immediate imprisonment was necessary".

Martin was found hanged in his cell at Parkhurst Prison in March this year. He has been servicing a 25-year sentence.

Of Stephens, aged 26, of West End Lane, west Hampstead, London, Lord Lane said that she had no previous convictions and had derived no benefit from storing and collecting Martin's belongings.

She had also been seriously wounded when the police shot Steven Waldorf in mistake for Martin.

Stephens, Lester Purdy, aged 30, a film editor, of Grovelands Road, Palmers Green, and Peter Enter, aged 27, an electrician of Ladbroke Grove, north Kensington, both London, were jailed by Knightsbridge Crown Court last November. They had claimed that their convictions were unsatisfactory because of misdirections by the trial judge.

Lord Lane said that, although Judge Babington had not been as clear and accurate as he should have been, his mistakes had been so trivial that no jury could have possibly have been led astray by them.

£6m total for Elveden contents

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's brought down the hammer on the last lot at Elveden Hall, Norfolk, yesterday, having secured Lord Iveagh £6m for the contents of his house; the firm had suggested in advance that they might be worth about £2.5m.

Yesterday's sale saw three coal scuttles secure £702 (estimate £150 to £200) and a nineteenth-century silver-mounted cut glass honey pot £3,456 (estimate £300 to £400).

Elveden's furniture price bonanza moved to Lawrence's sale room in Crewkerne, Somerset, where English furniture formerly at Hinton House was being sold on behalf of Lady Poulett. A pair of George III kingwood commodes, attributed to Pierre Langloise, sold for £99,000 (estimate £50,000) to an unnamed American dealer.

Population 'should be cut to 35 million'

By John O'Leary

Britain should aim to reduce its population to 35million over the next 100 years to be self-sufficient in food at a time of inevitable shortages, the family planning group Population Concern says in a report published yesterday.

The report estimates that the present population of 56million would have to live on only 1,600 calories a day if Britain had to feed itself. 35million would be the maximum for the present mixed diet.

The reduction implies an average of about 1.6 children a couple until 2080. By then, the group believes, world population growth will require nearly every country to be self-sufficient in staple foods.

One of the main targets of the report is the enthusiasm being shown for a baby boom to check the development of an ageing population. In fact, it is argued, a rise in the birthrate would increase the proportion of the population dependent on the state

Population Misconception (Population Concern, 231 Tottenham Court Road, London W1; £2.50).

Teenage fares cut for London

Cheap travel for teenagers is to be offered on London's buses and Tubes under an experimental scheme announced by the Greater London Council yesterday.

About 100,000 schoolchildren and students aged 16 and 17 will pay child fares of 10p on the bus and 20p to 60p on the Tube at all times. Other than for some school journeys they now pay full fares. The scheme will cost more than £6m a year.

'Secret passion' in Dick Emery's life

Dick Emery, the comedian who spent the last months of his life torn between his mistress and his fifth wife, may have been seeing a third woman, the High Court heard yesterday.

Miss Fay Hillier, the former showgirl with whom he lived while still returning to his wife for sex, said it was "unlikely but possible" that a third and young blonde was the secret passion of Mr Emery's life.

The woman mentioned in court by Mr Hedley Marten, counsel for Mr Emery's widow, Josephine, was Miss Suzy Silvey, a showgirl aged 26.

In a newspaper article written the week after Mr Emery's death aged 67 in January last year, Miss Silvey had said: "Dick ws torn between his wife and his mistress and came to me asking for help."

Mr Marten was cross-examining Miss Hillier, aged 35, on the third day of the case in which Mrs Emery is challenging her husband's will, which gave Miss Hillier a large portion of his estate.

Asked if she believed Mr Emery was interested in any other women before he died, Miss Hillier said: "I don't think he had a serious intent toward any other woman but he was always a flirtatious man. I daresay he had a glad eye for a passing girl."

Earlier, Miss Hillier denied that her relationship with Mr Emery was based purely on sex; particularly during the last year of his life when she had the "unglamorous" job of nursing him.

She said: "I believe he loved me and was telling the truth when he said he wanted our lives to be together".

Miss Hillier, who remains in the home the couple shared in Shepperton, Middlesex, also described how Mr Emery begged her to go back to him when he had second thoughts after returning to his wife in 1981.

"I loved him so much that I threw self-preservation to the winds", she told the court.

Mr Emery's actress widow – known professionally as Josephine Blake, is challenging his will which gave her only a half-share in their £235,000 home at Weybridge, Surrey. Miss Hillier was left the other half plus the remainder of the comedian's estate. But debts have cut the £300,000 total to £127,000. The hearing continues today.

PARLIAMENT May 24 1984

Leaders welcome prospect of further talks

COAL DISPUTE

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition both welcomed the prospect of further talks in the coal mining dispute, but there were sharp exchanges between the two in the Commons over interpretation of the supplementary benefit rules in providing support for the wives and families of striking miners.

Mr Neil Kinnock welcomed a change in the Prime Minister's attitude towards conciliation in the dispute but went on to an appeal to her not to inhibit support of miners' wives and families. Mrs Thatcher said that the law, as always, was carried out and after she had apparently condemned the idea, amid loud Labour protest, that politicians should be able to bend the law, Mr Kinnock accused her of sounding like a bureaucratic tape recorder.

His voice rising in volume, he appealed to her to act like a human being, but the Prime Minister told him that shouting at the dispatch box would not alter the law. It had been passed by the House.

Exchanges on the dispute began with a question from Mr Terry Davis (Birmingham, Lodge Hill, Lab) who referred to the breakdown of the talks between Mr Scargill, the miners' leader, and Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board.

Mrs Thatcher said she did not accept that interpretation of the outcome. The meeting between the two leaders had been followed by the offer of talks at a senior official level without prior commitment from either side, in relation to the *Plan for Coal* which had been the subject of discussion.

I understand that that offer has been taken up (she said) and I think it is the best thing. . . . I understand from someone muttering from below the gangway opposite that it must be right.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): It means we've won. (Labour cheers)

Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition: May I welcome the change in the Prime Minister's attitude towards conciliation in the dispute, and express the hope that she will do all she can, since she has extensive powers in these matters, in order to promote constructive discussions in the dispute.

And in a spirit of conciliation and humanity, will she instruct the Department of Health and Social Security not in any way to inhibit the supply of support to miners' wives and families, or withdraw any support that is necessary to people who are in great domestic difficulty?

Mrs Thatcher: The rules for supplementary benefit, as Mr Kinnock knows, are set out in legislation and there is an appeal from any particular decision to independent statutory authorities. The legislation is not waived. It is carried out, exactly as it has always been.

Mr Kinnock: That was an answer of extraordinary insensitivity to families in real difficulties.

There is discretion that can be exercised to support expectant mothers, a discretion that can be exercised to ensure that people get their Giro cheques on time; a discretion that can be exercised so that people getting food parcels do not lose the entitlement they have.

Will she ensure that the discretion that exists under the law is exercised in favour of people who are in destitution? (Conservative protests)

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Kinnock does not have the fundamental facts (Labour protests). The law with regard to supplementary benefit is set out in legislation and in orders passed through this House. Politicians cannot determine how much any individual person gets and it would be totally wrong if they could.

It is independent statutory authorities to whom appeal lies, who can determine how much it is, if dissatisfaction is expressed by anyone.

If Mr Kinnock is suggesting a politician can bend the law . . . . (Loud Labour protests).

Mr Kinnock: Mrs Thatcher sounds like a bureaucratic tape recorder. She knows well that under the law, within the law, with no politician bending it, it is possible for local officers to help people in need, old people and poor people.

Can she act like a human being and say that she wants that discretion to be exercised so that people in need can be helped?

Mrs Thatcher: Shouting at the dispatch box will not alter the law. The law is not as Mr Kinnock set out from the Front Bench.

It is not my law but the law which is passed by this House on supplementary benefits.

Robinson: MacGregor a bad appointment

The law is there and provision is made for appeal in any particular case. What he says shows that he neither understands, nor wants the law to be applied.

Mr Alexander Eadie (Midlothian, Lab): Since the NCB have had a rethink as a consequence of them walking out of the meeting yesterday with the NUM, and as talks are about to be resumed, can she give an assurance that she and



Eadie: Conciliation has been sadly lacking

the Government will do everything in their power to make sure that those talks come to a satisfactory conclusion, since conciliation and consultation should be in the political knapsack of any government and are sadly lacking in this Government's as of late? (Conservative laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: I realize that Mr Eadie was probalby at the meeting although when I last answered questions he shouted that the meeting had been cancelled because I had put a veto on it. Neither was correct.

The meeting took place and at that meeting the NCB offered talks at senior level between the two sides to discuss Plan fo Coal. At that meeting, officials of the NCB offered three presentations.

One was on Plan for Coal and they asked for comments and opinions. There were none. One was on market prospects for coal and they asked for comment and opinion. There were none. One was on the effect on pits and faces as the dispute drags on and they asked for comment and opinion. There were none. Another was one the financial prospects and they asked for comment and opinion. There were none.

After that the NCB offered talks at senior level between the two sides on Plan for Coal.

It was a wise offer: the kind of offer which should be made between management and workforce. I most earnestly hope that talks will succeed because the Government has done its part by providing the investment in the future of the coal industry.

Mr Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry, North-West, Lab): That long list of agenda which was discussed yesterday is totally irrelevant to the real issues which have to be discussed and it should not be surprising to her that the NCB chiarman has already volunteered out of further negotiations. Does that not prove to her what a bad appointment that was?

Will she not take the initiative? The initiative lies with her to put forward a realistic agenda of proper discussion to get a settlement to this terrible dispute (Labour cheers).

Mrs Thatcher: If he reflects on that agenda, he will find that evey item is highly relevant. He is failing to observe that a letter has gone and has been accepted as a result of consultation between management and workforce.

They have to cooperate in the future. I wish the talks every success.

An attempt by **Mr Derek Fatchett** (Leeds Central, Lab) to get an emergency debate on the teachers' dispute in the Commons was rejected by the Speaker.

Prior confesses to injudicious remarks

ULSTER

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, acknowledged in the Commons that over the years he had made many injudicious remarks. But he had always thought frankness and candour was something the people of Northern Ireland respected and, as such, he would go on being frank and candid.

He commented amid laughter that he welcomed the return of the Official Unionist Party to the Assembly even if, as he sometimes thought, it was brought about by his own indiscretions. If that is the case (he added) perhaps I had better create a few more indiscretions.

The Secretary of State had to deal with references to his remarks on Monday to a local radio station suggesting he had served long enough in his present office. Mr Prior said he had the complete confidence of the Government and Cabinet and the Prime Minister.

He said he believed the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland with regard to their sovereignty and to whom they wished to belong must be respected at all times. Parts of the Forum report went a long way to show a much greater understanding of the Unionist position in Northern Ireland.

There was gasps and shouts of "Disgraceful" from the Conservative back benches when Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP) asked: Does Mr Prior consider that the officials in the Northern Ireland Office whose disastrous advice he has followed with characteristic self-satisfaction and obtuseness, contemplate with any degree of satisfaction the bloody consequences of their achievements?

Mr Prior stated: I find his words almost impossible to reply to. They are so utterly disgraceful he does no credit to a distinguished parliamentary career. (Conservative cheers).

He responded to questions on the security situation, talks with political leaders since publication of the report of the Northern Ireland Forum and Government policy towards it.

Mr Prior said that whether the Forum report should lead to a Parliamentary tier or grouping was a matter for Parliament. The report was an agenda which must be taken seriously.

What he had been saying to the people of Norhern Ireland was that everyone there wanted peace but all wanted it on their own terms.

Everyone has to give up a little bit of their most cherished views (he said) if we want peace because in the end the result is greater than the difference.

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East, DUP) said there deep apprehension at the prospect of having a five month period with a Secretary of State who said he had nothing further to offer? Does he believe (he added) that in that period he can make some contribution by starting a new initiative on security?

Mr Prior: There is widespread anxiety in the province, as there has been over a period of time, over security. I certainly respond to that in any and every way that I can. It is not solely by security forces alone that we shall overcome the problems of Northern Ireland.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harlow, C): There are many on these benches who admire the fortitude with which he has carried out his duties and who wish him well in the next few months in trying to secure peace for the two communities and trying to bring them both together.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): Has not this lame duck Secretary of State effectively resigned from his position after making a statement at the weekend?

Would not another Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, regarding security and other matters, have been a little bit more circumspect in engaging in this row with Mrs Thatcher, which can only rebound on the job Mr Prior is supposed to be doing?

Mr Prior: I have the complete confidence of the Government, the Cabinet and the Prime Minister. I suspect that is more than he can say about his leader.

● **Mr Prior** also said that he expected to meet the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Ireland in London tomorrow (Friday) and to him and other Irish ministers from time to time to discuss matters of mutual concern within the framework of the Anglo-Irish Intergovernmental Council.

Sir John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): Noting the return of the Official Unionists to the Northern Ireland Assembly, will he give special consideration to the Unionist Assembly party's discussion paper well-named *The Way Forward* and not dismiss it as he has sometimes dismissed similar ideas put forward from the benches behind him?

Mr Prior: I have not rejected this report which I regard as encouraging both in the language and the ideas it puts forward. I will never dismiss any suggestion or policy document which in any way starts and helpd to keep going a political dialogue in the province.

Mr Michael Lathan (Rutland and Melton, C): Will Mr Prior, who has many friends in this House, confirm that while he will always listen to the views of friendly nations about United Kingdom matters, the paramount consideration will be the democratically expressed views of the people of Northern Ireland?

Mr Prior: Yes, and I would make that absolutely plain at all times.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): To be dismissive about the political attempt to solve the problem is useless. Sometime, all the parties concerned must get round the table.

When he said that changing his mind made him similar in some ways to the Ulster Unionists, that is nonsense. They do not change their minds but are utterly intransigent and do not want to discuss it at all.

Mr Prior: I long for the day when the parties in Northern Ireland get round the table, discuss these matters among themselves and come to an agreement. It has been that which has so far proved difficult to achieve.

Mr Timothy Yeo (South Suffolk, C): The Forum report is at least a well-meaning attempt to bring about an improvement and any failure to take it seriously will not only be condemned at home but bring about justified criticism in the international community.

Mr Prior: We are taking the report seriously and giving it proper consideration, but so far as it impinges on the sovereignty of Northern Ireland that is not something we could accept.

As the report recognized itself, any change has to be by the consent and agreement of the people of Northern Ireland. We know that any change of that nature would not be forthcoming.

Therefore we have to take that into account in providing an answer to what is a serious document representing the nationa'list parties of the island of Ireland.

Mr Robert Maclennan (Caithness and Sutherland, SDP): He has said that the time has come when a fresh mind ought to be brought in. Many MPs recognize his frankness and candour and share his judgment. It is not possible to give any kind of leadership in this new situation in Northern Ireland when he is so undecided as to what he has to offer.

Mr Prior: It is not a question of whether I am decided or not. I have to make clear at all times that the policy pursued there is the policy of the whole Government and not just the Secretary of State.

He has wanted to get rid of me for some while. He may be right, but while I am there I am going to do all I can to help the sides in Northern Ireland to see a way forward for themselves.

Mr Iver Stanbrook (Orpington, C): Since all the propsals in the New Ireland Forum are based on a single objective, a united Ireland, and that is anathema to the majority in Northern Ireland, is it not already a dead duck?

Mr Prior: I do not think it is a dead duck. There are parts of the Forum report which go a long way to showing much greater understanding of the Unionist position in



Prior: I will go on being frank and candid

Northern Ireland than any other nationalists have shown before.

That is reflected to a certain extent by the Unionist document which shows a much greater understanding of the nationalist position than has been shown before.

That should give us some grounds for believing that we can make some progress.

Mr Enoch Powell: How can anyone imagine, who is not a fool, that the prolonged and public flirtation of the Government with the irredentist operation in Dublin known as the New Ireland Forum could have any effect but to encourage the IRA in their terrorist and murderous activity?

Mr Prior: When is he going to realize that the IRA need no encouragement? They will take what action they can when they can. He is under total misapprehension if he believes that simply by saying that Northern Ireland is a part of the United Kingdom for all time, the IRA will simply go away. They will not.

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast, DUP): The solution to the Northern Ireland problem will not come from the Forum in Dublin nor from London but only from the people of Northern Ireland sitting down themselves: will he join me in appealing to the SDLP to join with the other parties prepared to sit down in the Assembly?

Mr Prior: He has made an important and sensible comment. The best people to make an approach to the SDLP are the unionist parties of Northern Ireland. If they will show willingness to understand the SDLP and their particular difficulties then perhaps we could make some progress. I am willing to do all I can to help.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, said Mr Prior's remarks on Norfolk Radio would have given comfort to many who wished simply to preserve the status quo; the broad indication that any attempt by Mr Prior to initiate discussions on the report would be lacking in authority and Cabinet support.

Any talks starting now would be likely to be concluded under a Secretary of State much less sympathetic to progress. If this was not a proper construction to be put on Mr Prior's remarks, then what inference should be drawn?

Mr Prior: That is not a proper construction to be put on my remarks. I reaffirm that the policy which the Secretary of State is asked to pursue is the policy of the Government and I shall do all I can during my period in office to promote the policy of the Government. I see no earthly reason why that policy should not be one of continuity.

Opposition 'made a muck' of attack

The opposition made a muck of it, Mrs Thatcher said when questioning about the Labour Government (Interim Provisions) Bill in the Commons.

The Bill paves the way for the abolition of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan councils.

Mr Tim Renton (Mid Sussex, C): Have not the events of the past 24 hours shown Labour's leadership to be at best non-existent and, at worst, an utter shambles – (Conservative cheers) – and that the phrase "In-Out" not only applies to the Labour Party's Common Market policy but also to anyone who happens to jump up at the despatch box?

Mrst Thatcher: I agree about what happened yesterday. I think the Opposition made a muck of it.

The Commons rose at 10.43 on Wednesday night, having sat for 32½ hours, the longest sitting of the House since July 23 1936. The Bill, which was given its third reading and sent to the Lords, had been debated for 29 hours. The third reading was carried by 304 votes to 176 – government majority, 128.

BL board had no option to closures – minister

INDUSTRY

The Government's policies directly contributed to the de-industrialization of Britain – and Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was the principle gravedigger – **Mr Peter Shore**, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said in opening the emergency debate.

He said the decision meant not only the abandonment of vehicle manufacturing in Scotland, but of all efforts to reinstate BL as a major manufacturer of commercial vehicles.

So long as BL remained as a group, surpluses from one part of the business could be used to help to finance the deficits of other parts. But the Government intended to deny Bathgate and BL Trucks any extra resources and to sell off this year the jewel in its crown, Jaguar, to private enterprise.

It is this decision (he said) which has inevitably posed a major crisis for BL and decisively tipped the scale against any efforts by the company, from its own resources, to continue with the Bathgate operation. That is the direct responsibility of the Government and of the Secretary of State.

There was still sufficient time before the closure of Bathgate for an independent reappraisal of the markets at home and abroad. To put BL trucks back on the road their market share should be increased by reactivating the Model 211 project and introducing new models and engines.

There was still a gap in the market for a replacement for a light van and there should be a new British-built vehicle in precisely this range of commercial vehicles at Bathgate.

The decision on C H Roe should be put on ice while the Government reactivated the grant for new buses. It should encourage the municipal transport authorities to buy the vehicles they needed.

The Government should at least postpone the damaging and financially disabling proposal to privatize Jaguar this year. This would make the necessary major contribution to finance the revival of the commercial vehicle division.

Mr Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said this was not a case where closure was due to failures by the workforce.

There had been a dramatic turn round in all aspects fo BL Cars, moving from a pre-interest trading loss of £78 in 1982 to an operating profit of £73m in 1983. But the bus and trucks business fo Leyland vehicles remained in deep trouble.

The Government had given long and hard thought to BL's corporate plan before endorsing the decision to close Bathgate but in the end the facts proved inescapable.

The truck business across Europe was severely depressed and UK market had shrunk. At this modern Leyland plant, Leyland trucks had the capacity to produce 24,000 vehicles and at Bathgate, if in full production, to produce at least the same number.

This capacity to produce 48,000 trucks was set against sales of 11,000 last year. So even if sales recovered to their 1978 level of 24,000, the Leyland plant alone had the capacity to meet that demand itself.

Bathgate's capacity to produce engines also vastly exceeded both present sales and any likely level of demand in the forseeable future. Not surprisingly, with this enormous burden of unproductive overheads, Leyland vehicles had lost more than £60m in both 1982 and 1983. No business of its size could stand that level of loss for very long.

The Government had been accused of starving BL of investment, but since 1975 £2,300m had been pumped in, £1,430m since 1979. At Bathgate, £25m had been spent in the last five years alone.

The Government is in no doubt at this juncture (he said) that further large scale investment at Bathgate, in the face of the facts in the truck market, would be the height of folly. It would burden Leyland Vehicles with an added burden of debt which the company could not support and there seems to be no prospect of it generating the level of extra sales needed to justify the plant's retention.

The Government was considering realistic measures to generate new employment in the area before the start of the phased redundancies.

Leyland was to appoint business consultants to identify and prepare an outline for business and other opportunities and the Scottish Development Agency would be associated with the study.

In addition, Locate in Scotland would, through its overseas offices, immediately seek to interest inwar investors in the plant in particular, and tohe area in general.

A vast range of new industries was flowing into Scotland; the only difficulty in presenting the list was that it was so long that he did not have time to do so.

Most recently (he said), this very day, Digital has announced it is moving from assembly to manufacturing and is embarking on a £15m development which will create 200 new jobs over three years.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said the plant at Bathgate had suffered from lack of investment and remote management. Unlike the Jaguar plant, there appeared to be no-one in authority able to answer the workforce and make decisions. It's a sad story of almost criminal negligance.

Lord James Douglas-Hamilton (Edinburgh West, C) said Bearing that Bathgate was a highly integrated factory with a skilled labour force it might be that firms from abroad would be interested in taking advantage of this opportunity.

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) said the workforce at Bathgate were serious responsible people. Their actions might be extreme, but they were promted by the actions or inactions of an unjust Government. Many third world countries were crying out for good trucks of the kind produced at Bathgate.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove, C) said a specialist manufacturer of the size of BL could survive long term only if it sought some cooperation in marketing and technology in commercial vehicles as the company had been driven to having on the car side.

Mr Bruce Millan (Glasgow, Govan, Lab) said the Bathgate workforce was bitter and did not trust a management whose assurances had been borne out.

The procedural motion for the adjournment was rejected by 281 votes to 177 – Government majority, 104.

Rate reform move fails

An attempt to establish a committee to inquire into the Scottish rating system and the need for its reform, was narrowly defeated during the report stage of the Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill in the House of Lords. The amendment, moved by **Lord Ross of Marnock** (Lab) was rejected by 72 votes to 67. Government majority – 5.

Lord Gray of Contin, Minister of State, Scottish Office, successfully moved a new clause allowing for the relief of rates in respect of non-domestic lands and heritages not in active use.

This, he said, would apply to industrial premises not in use, but where plant and machinery were present which were last used, or intended to be used, on the property.

The effect would be to avoid the necessity of stripping premises of equipment to qualify for rate relief. The total amount of relief would not be large, but to individual firms it might be substantial. The cost to local authorities would be taken into account in determining total rate support grant.

The report stage was concluded.

Britain will bow to court ruling

If the European Court of Human Rights finds against the British Government in the case on compensation currently before it, the Government will adhere to that ruling, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, assured Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, in the Commons.

Mr Steele said: Since the Prime Minister sets some store by the law, will she explain the extraordinary role of the Government before the European Commission of Human Rights that any British Government may nationalize the property of British citizens without fully compensating them.

Mrs Thatcher: The case is before the Court of Human Rights and if it finds against what we have done, Mr Steel knows that we adhere to the court of human rights.

It is nice to see him back in his place. I understand that he voted once yesterday (Wednesday).

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Spring adjournment debates.

Remarks which are to be off the record

PROCEDURE

Remarks made by MPs from a sitting position would not normally be recorded in the *Official Report* as they did not form part of the official proceedings of the House, The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) ruled in the Commons.

This came after he had investigated a complaint that Mr Norman Atkinson (Tottenham, Lab) had accused Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary State for Trade and Industry, of lying following Tuesday's statement on BL's closure plans.

The Speaker said he had not heard this, but he had later listened to the tape recordings of the proceedings and it had been said.

Mr Atkinson said he withdrew the accusation without any reservation.

Mr Andrew Faulds (Warley East, Lab) then complained that he had made a comment, quite clearly, from a sedentary position, but it had not been recorded in the *Official Report*.

The Speaker: Remarks made from a sedentary position and not taken up in debate will not normally be reported in *Hansard*. They do not form part of the proceedings of Parliament.

Peers plea for 'Ajax'

HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Mottiston (C), the first captain of the latest Royal Navy vessel to bear the famous name HMS Ajax, made a plea during question time in the House of Lords for the name to be perpetuated by future ships after the present vessel is de-commissioned.

Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, had told the House: The Ship's Names and Badges Committee take into account all suggestions for the naming of new Royal Naval vessels. The name HMS Ajax will be considered together with other proposals for suitable future ships.

Lord Gainford (C): Could he send to the Admiralty a recommendation that they do not let the name associated with the Royal Navy for over 200 years, including the battle of Trafalgar, Jutland and the River Plate, disappear?

Lord Trefgarne: The committee considering these matters are well aware of the considerations he advances. But there are a large number of famous names of former ships available for consideration.

Lord Mottistone: I was the first captain of the present Ajax which I took from the builders in December 1963. I had the privilege of visiting the town of Ajax in Ontario, called after the cruiser, and the Mayor of Ajax attended the commissioning ceremony together with all the living captains of the illustrious cruiser Ajax.

Lord Trefgarne: All these considerations will most certainly be taken into account, above all his own associations.

Business after recess

The main business in the House of Commons when Parliament returns after the spring recess will be:

Commons. Jun 4: Co-operative Development Agency and Industrial Development Bill, remaining stages.

Jun 5: Data Protection Bill, remaining stages.

Jun 6: Agricultural Holdings Bill, remaining stages.

Jun 7: Debate on Opposition motions on coal dispute.

Jun 8: Debate on air pollution by industrial plants.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Jun 4: Police and Criminal Evidence Bil, second reading.

Jun 5; Rates Bill, report, first day.

Jun 6: Debate on EEC committee report on successor to Lomé convention. Video Recordings Bill, report. Debate on the Lebanon.

Jun 7: Rating and Valuation (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, third reading. London Regional Transport Bill, report, first day.

Tory 92 Committee

Right-wingers choose Tebbit ally

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

The highly secretive Conservative 92 Committee, a right-wing version of the Commons backbench 1922 Committee, has elected one of Mr Norman Tebbit's closest parliamentary allies as its chairman.

The 92 Committee, formed 20 years ago at the home of Sir Partick Wall, Conservative MP for Beverley, has the stated objective of keeping "the Conservative Party conservative." It takes its name from Sir Patrick's home, 92 Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, London.

Part of its success has been the secrecy of its operation. But *The Times* was able to monitor the committee's annual dinner, held at St Stephen's Constitutional Club, Westminster, on Tuesday.

It had been decided that because of the committee's growth Sir Patrick, aged 67, would relinquish the unofficial chairmanship. The committee's 70 members on Tuesday agreed that Mr George Gardiner, the MP for Reigate, should take over.

Mr Gardiner is one of the key figures behind the unofficial right-wing whip that operates



Mr George Gardiner (left), who has taken over as chairman from Sir Patrick Wall (right).

when backbench elections are being held each autumn, and his political allegience to Mr Tebbit is unquestioned.

Among those Conservatives attending the Tuesday dinner were three ministers, two whips and four parliamentary private secretaries.

The most senior minister present was Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, who was accompanied by Mr Robert Dunn, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education and Mr Raymond Whitney, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office. One government car, which delivered two ministers to the dinner, remained outside the club until the dinner finished.

Whips attending the dinner were Mr Archibald Hamilton and Mr Michael Neubert. The parliamentary private secretaries were: Mrs Angela Rumbold, Transport; Mr Michael Colvin, Foreign Office: Mr David Atkinson, Trade and Industry; and Mr James Pawsey, Health and Social Services.

The 23 MPs who also attended were: Mr John Stokes, Halesowen and Stourbridge; Mr William Shelton, Streatham; Mr Ralph Howell, Norfolk North; Sir John Biggs-Davison, Epping Forest; Mr Nicholas Winterton, Macclesfield; Mr Gardiner; Mr Ian Lloyd, Havant; Mr Michael Brown, Brigg and Cleethorpes; Mr John Page, Harrow West; Mr John Ward, Poole; Mrs Jill Knight, Birmingham, Edgbaston; Mr John Carlisle, Luton North; Mr Kenneth Warren, Hastings and Rye; Mr Edward Taylor, Southend East; Mr Ivan Lawrence, Burton; Mr Gerrard Neale, Cornwall North; Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Orpington; Sir Patrick; Mr John Townend, Bridlington; Mr Winston Churchill, Davyhulme; Mr Timothy Brinton, Gravesham; Mr Vivian Bendall, Ilford North and Sir Paul Hawkins, Norfolk South West.

It is expected that the new committee leadership will work to ensure that as many "real" Conservatives as possible are elected to senior posts on backbench committees next autumn and that, once a satisfactory network of trusted officers is in place, members of the full 92 Committee would be mobilized to attend backbench committees

Dealer told not to fly Union Jack

Mr David Irwin, a car dealer, has been told to stop flying the Union Jack at his business premises.

Sutton Borough Council, south London, sent a letter telling him to limit the use of the flag to memorial days only. Mr Irwin, aged 50, believes that the letter was prompted by protests from other traders near his showrooms in Ruskin Road, Carshalton.

The letter said that action could be taken under the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1984. But Mr Irwin, who has flown the flag for eight years, intends to ignore the warning.

"I do not see that the flag of our country should be hidden away except for special occasions. I am British and proud of it and if flags can be flown at foreign embassies in London, why can't I fly the Union Jack?"

A spokesman for the council said that if the flag which is on the face of the building at an angle of 45 degrees was moved to an upright position on the roof it would not require planning permission.

Trainer of winning horse 'turned away'

Colin Mathison, a company director, had "seven thousand good reasons" to thank the trainer of a winning horse that romped home to bring him a big win, a court heard yesterday.

But instead of congratulating him, Mr Mathison turned Mr Stephen Wiles, the trainer, away from his door.

Mr Mathison told the jury in the Flockton Grey racing swindle trial at York Crown Court that he won £7,000 when a horse came first at Leicester two years ago.

It is alleged that Mr Mathison was involved in a betting coup after duping Mr Wiles into running a three-year-old called Good Hand in the guise of a two-year-old falsely named Flockton Grey.

He told the jury that, after the race, Mr Wiles and his father called at his home demanding to know the whereabouts of the winning horse. Mr Wiles was angry and shouting and he did not know what he was talking about, Mr Mathison said.

Geoffrey Rivlin QC, for the prosecution, suggested to Mr Mathison that if he had been unaware of any swindle he would have been concerned about Mr Wiles's complaint. He said' "You had seven thousand good reasons to be pleased with them."

Mr Mathison, replied: "I don't know why. I wasn't interested. I just had a bet, that's all."

Mr Mathison, aged 46, of Wold View Road North, Driffield, Humberside; Kenneth Richardson, also 46, of Jubilee House, Hutton, near Driffield; and Peter Boddy, aged 38, of Hazel Close, Driffeield, all deny conspiracy to defraud and conspiracy to obtain property by deception. The trial continues today.

Raffle mansion for sale

A Gloucestershire syndicate which won a 30-room mansion in a raffle is to auction its prize within the next two months.

Middleton Park, set in almost 380 acres of Co Westleath, 50 miles from Dublin, is expected to fetch 500,00 Irish pounds (£403,000).

The winning £175 was bought by a syndicate headed by Mr Tony Ray, from Fiddington, near Tewkesbury, who owns two agricultural supplies businesses. Other members are four employees, Mrs Paula Wick, Mr Ralph Teague, Mr Walter Malcolm and Mr Hugh Smiley. The sixth member, Mr Bill Rammage, is a customer.

Sponsored opera

Barclays Bank yesterday announced a £60,000 sponsorship of a touring production of *Rigoletto* by Welsh National Opera next year.

Trophies for games impounded

French customs officials at Boulogne have impounded 100 medals and 10 trophies intended for this weekend's Subbuteo table football championships in Paris.

The trophies, worth £1,700, were being taken to the Parc des Princes stadium where 18 countries will compete in the 1984 European championships.

Subbuteo officials did not declare them as they classed them as goodwill mementoes. The Subbuteo firm was also fined 12,000 francs (£1,043).

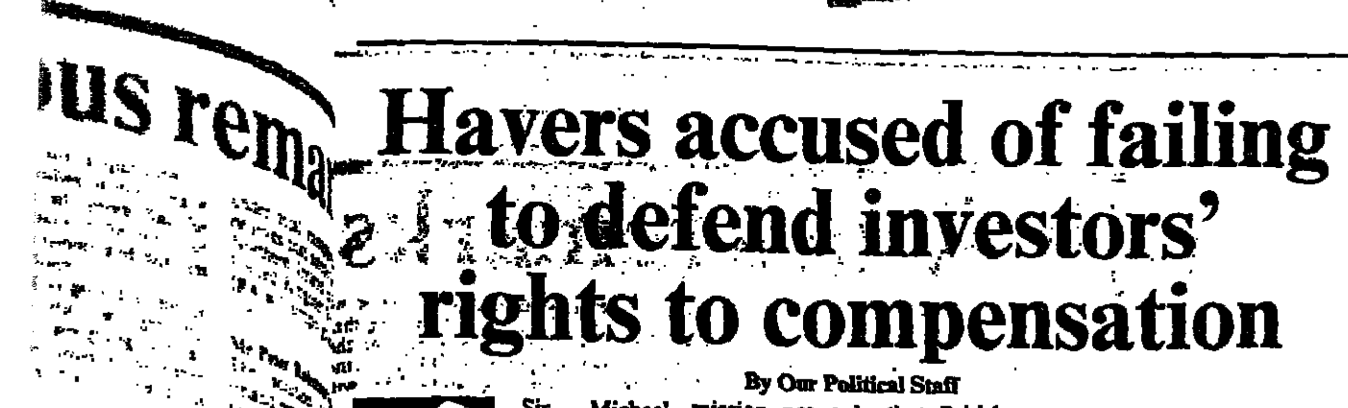
Wallaby pub tour criticized

A campaign by Joshua Tetley's, the Leeds brewery firm, to increase sales of Australian lager by taking a wallaby on a promotional tour of northern public houses has been criticized by the RSPCA.

The organization's chief wildlife officer, Mr Stefan Ormrod said the animal could suffer from the stress of being transported. The brewery said the animal only drinks the lager voluntarily and is accompanied by expert handlers.

£27m fire loss

Fires destroyed an estimated £27.8m of property last month in England, Scotland and Wales, the British [illegible] Association said yesterday.



Havers accused of failing to defend investors' rights to compensation

By Our Political Staff

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, came under attack yesterday from the Liberal/Social Democrats Alliance for not properly defending the rights to fair compensation of shareholders in aircraft and shipbuilding companies nationalized by the last Labour Government.

A case involving seven claims for extra compensation amounting to several hundred million pounds was recently before the European Commission of Human Rights.

The Government is being criticized by Conservative backbenchers and former shareholders of the nationalized companies, including Vickers, Yarrow and Vosper, for persistently refusing to pay improved compensation.

When the nationalized measure was going through Parliament several Conservative MPs now in the Cabinet argued strongly for higher compensation than was proposed by the Labour Government.

At yesterday's European election press conference given by the Alliance, Mr Robert Maclennan, MP for Caithness and Sutherland, the SDP spokesman on home affairs, complained that the Conservative Government had said before the European Commission not only that British citizens should enjoy fewer rights than foreigners but also compensation for expropriation of the assets of British citizens was adequate when it stood at between one third and one seventh of the value of those assets.

"In today's issue of *The Times* the Attorney General puts forward the bizarre suggestion that the arguments which were deployed by the British Government before the Commission must remain confidential and that the proceedings of the Commission and court should *not* be revealed to the public", Mr Maclennan said.

"Other ministers in the government are involved in this case and other people – not in government – will comment on those arguments."

Mr Maclennan found it incredible that it should be Conservative ministers who argued that the shareholders of Yarrow, Vickers, and Vosper should not enjoy the rights enjoyed by other citizens in Europe to fair, prompt and effective compensation.

"Not only that: they are even laying the foundation for the argument which will be deployed by the Labour Party and those who share Mr Tony Benn's view that renationalization without compensation is acceptable", he said.

The Alliance parties would look to the European Community to ensure that the human rights of British citizens were protected.

The Government's failings had also been seen over the implementation of the EEC directive on women's pay, giving equal pay for work of equal value. It was a directive that the Government had resisted vigorusly and it was still not fully implemented.

It was on those issues, Mr Maclennan said, that the "Conservative strong voice in Europe" had not been heard by citizens defending their rights.

Mr Alan Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed and the Liberal Chief Whip, said that civil rights in Britain would be much better protected today but for the attitude adopted in Parliament by Labour and Conservative MPs.

In the Lords and the Commons Alliance members had presented Bills to ensure that the rights contained in the European Convention on Human rights were directly and fully available to British citizens in the British courts. But the Bills had been persistently opposed by Labour and Conservative MPs with only a few exceptions.

Havers and Tories, page 12



Artist and artefact: Henry Moore, the sculptor, with a font from St Michael's Church, Castle Frome, Somerset, which is part of an Arts Council exhibition at the Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London.

The display, 1066: English Romanesque Art 1066-1200, which runs until July 8, features the art and architecture of Norman England. (Photograph: Rory Coonan).

Britain's sea power 'under threat'

Britain will be a minor maritime power within three years because of government policies, the UK shipping industry said yesterday. (*Our Transport Editor writes.*)

Britain's merchant fleet, which earlier this century was half the world's total, could be down to 10 million tonnes *compared with Liberia's present* 123 million, Greece's 66 million, Japan's 63 million and Panama's 58 million.

The British fleet had shrunk from 50 million to 23 million *tonnes in ten years, and the* downward trend had been given a further push bya hostile Budget that could put shipowners and seamen in conflict and provoke a further "large and swift rush out of shipping", Mr Bill Manzies-Wilson, new president of the General Council of British Shipping said in London.

Budget withdrmai of tax allowances could cost sailors £10 to £40 a week, which shipowners were not in a position to make up, he said.

Rescue of Duccio may depend on rich patriot

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

The Manchester City Art Gallery is £600,000 short of the £1.75m needed to keep in Britain an early Sienne crucifixion attributed to Duccio.

The suspension of its export licence expires on July 12, when the painting is due to go to the Getty Museum in California.

Yesterday, Lord Normanby, chairman of the National Art Collections Fund, which has offered £500,000, said that the appeal's success might depend upon a wealthy patriot willing to find most of the balance.

In a speech in which he criticized the Getty Museum's purchasing powers and lack of tax incentives for arts sponsorship, he cited the purchase of Holbein's "The Duchesss of Milan" for the National Gallery in 1909, which was secured at the last minute by an anonymous gift of £40,000.

Lord Normanby said: "Mr Paul Getty left some $2 billion and by his will his trustees are required to spend $90m – that is *more than £50m in three out of* every four years.

"The trust is not doing anything immoral by entering the world markets. Since it is *richer than any other trust in* the world it cannot fail to have an effect on prices, and it is these "Getty enhanced values" *which are becoming harder and* harder to match.

Parties get £3.5m to publicize polls

By David Cross

"What are these European elections and am I entitled to vote?" a bemused reader in Hackney, east London, asked when he telephoned *The Times*. He sounded a bit embarrassed, as though he ought really to have known the answer to that simple question.

But he was not alone in his mystification. An opinion poll showed that he was part of the 87 per cent of the British electorate, which was totally unaware that the European community's *180 million* voters would next month have the opportunity of voting in this country's second international general election.

Nevertheless, by polling day on June 14 the caller from Hackney and others like him will have no excuses if they are still in the dark. In addition to all the money being spent on politicking by the leading parties during the campaign, a total of more than £3.5m will have been spent in Britain alone on publicizing the existence and activities of the European Parliament.

The lion's share of the advertising budget, paid for by the European Parliament out of EEC funds, is being spent by the Conservative Party. Because it has far and away the most seats in the outgoing Parliament, it has already received nearly £2.5m for pre-campaign publicity.

Part of it has gone on direct advertising in the press such as the double-page spread which has appeared in many national newspapers extolling the virtues of the comminity as a peace-maker in Europe after two world wars.

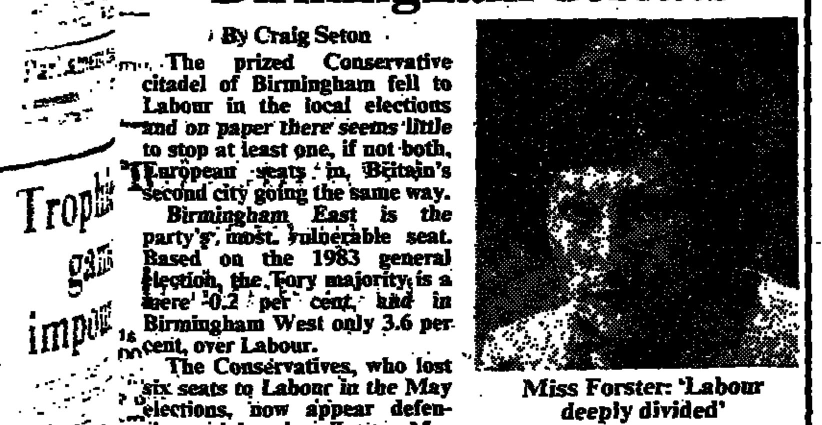
Other money has been spent on taking groups of opinion formers to sittings of the European Parliament in Strasbourg and the making of a 14 minute long film entitled *Europe in the Making*. Introduced by Lord Carrington, the Nato secretary-general designate, and featuring such luminaries of the Conservative group in the European Parliament as Sir Henry Plumb, its leader, the film traces the activities of the group since the last election in 1979.

In keeping with its poor showing in the 1979 European Elections, the Labour Party has been allocated less than a third of the funds paid to the Conservatives for publicity purposes.

Some of its £700,000 has been spent on the Euro-bus currently travelling around Britain as a moving campaing platform, on advertising in specialist publications, including its own newspaper, *Labour Weekly*, regional media training courses for candidates, agents and press officers, and a small computer at the party's headquarters in south London.

The Alliance, which is not officially entitled to any funds for information purposes (because it has no seats in the outgoing Parliament) has been given a paltry £250,000 by European Liberals represented in Strasbourg.

Finally, the European Parliament office in London will be spending up to £500,000 on strictly non-political publicity.



Tory fight to avoid new Birmingham defeats

By Craig Seton

The prized Conservative citadel of Birmingham fell to Labour in the local elections and on paper there seems little to stop at least one, if not both, European seats in Britain's second city going the same way.

Birmingham East is the party's most vulnerable seat. Based on the 1983 general election, the Tory majority is a mere 0.2 per cent, and in Birmingham West only 3.6 per cent, over Labour.

The Conservatives, who lost six seats to Labour in the May elections, now appear defensive, relying heavily on Mrs Margaret Thatcher's tough stand on *EEC contributions* and the need for a strong team to fight for British interests.

The Alliance, which took two Conservative seats in the City elections, had a poor average of 19 per cent of the poll in 1983 and its best hope is the freedom from usual voting loyalties a European election may offer.

It is now busily unfurling its "We are the only true Europeans" flag.

Signs of an impending victory have inspired Labour to an unaccustomed enthusiasm for the European contest. To counter the possiblity of a poor turnout, it has mounted a high profile campaign involving "blitz" canvassing of key areas, walkabouts, streets stalls and, on June 2, the erection of a 20ft high mock food mountain to symbolise the waste in the Common Agricultural Policy

Miss Norvela Forster, who won the former Birmingham South Euro seat in 1979, is now defending the restructured Birmingham East. The boundary change has made her task "marginally worst"

"Labour's razzmatazz merely hides their deep divisions on Europe – half of them want to get out", she said.

Miss Forster: 'Labour deeply divided'

Labour's Mrs Christine Crawley, a local techer, aged 34, says she is pragmatic about Europe. "I want to see a radical change and if that does not happen, withdrawal is an option, not a certainty."

Mr David Bennett, aged 35, the SDP-Alliance candidate, is a former EEC agricultural trade employee who now works as an economist for the British Gas Corporation. He believes the Alliances' European commitment and its positive approach – "what can the EEC offer this area" – will take votes from both opponents.

In Birmingham West, Mr Colin Hart, aged 37, the Conservative is a former BBC journalist. He was until recently a publicity director for Conservatives in the European Parliament.

He has conceded that the seat is marginal but says it is tough for Labour too.

His Labour opponent is John Tomlinson, former Labour MP for Meriden for 1974-79, who had European experience as a Foreign Office minister.

Mr Joe Binns, 52, for the SDP-Alliance, is director of a credit insurance broking firm in Birmingham. He says the election frees voters from their traditional loyalties.

Mitterrand presses for European union with or without the British

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The need for a new treaty leading to European union was pressed before the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday by no less a person than President Mitterrand of France. He gave an implicit warning that preparatory work would start on it without Britain if need be.

In a speech which conjured up a vision of Europe tackling the challenges of the next century, he threw his political weight behind the Parliament's own project to turn the economic community into a political federal state.

Answering questions from MEPs later, M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, said his country wanted work to start on the new treaty as quickly as possible among those countries interested. Its aim would be to cover areas not included in existing treaties, such as health, education, security and the fight against terrorism.

France also wants to see a permanent secretariat set up to coordinate the foreign policy of member-states. At the same time it wants to improve the level of consultation between the different Community institutions, particularly the Parliament.

As one way forward, the French President called for a much more restricted use of the power of veto within the Community, a power which his own country fought so hard to establish under President de Gaulle.

He had little time in his 40-minute speech for the British budget problem which, to applause from much of the House, he qualified as "petty quarrelling." He said firmly that, whatever was negotiated, there could be no settlement if Community law were called into question.

Ominously, he indicated that he still believed Britain was merely trying to do no more than get as much out of the Community as it put in. "The Treaty of Rome is binding and the contract implies that there can be no principle of 'fair returns'," he said.

"Reconciliation between the naturally different positions of the 10 partners, when an excessive imbalance is shown, can be allowed because we are bound by solidarity. But we must remain in reasonable limits for a suitable solution and not pretend to reform the treaty without saying so."

His comments about the British case were, in his own words, "prudent". He was not looking for argument, but he made it quite clear that Britain was seen as failing to meet its obligations to trade fully within the Community and, in calling for preparatory work in the treaty for European union, he hinted that Britain need not join in.

"France is available to take part in such an enterprise," he told members. "Speaking in its name, I declare it ready to examine your proposal which, in its inspiration, suits it.

"I suggest, to that end, that prparatory talks are started which could lead to a conference of those member-states who are interested."

The basis for discussions, he said, would be the Parliament's own proposal along with a declaration on European union signed by all 10 countries at the Stuttgart summit last June.

Those who wanted European union could draw up a new treaty, which would not replace existing treaties but would extend their scope into areas that were now ignored. As President Mitterrand explained it, any country could opt not to join in the new union if it did not want to be further involved in his vision of Europe.

The speech was meant to be historic. It began with "the birth of Europe when, in May 1948, the European idea took shape at the Hague Congress. I was there and I believed in it."

It was high-flown eloquence, carefully designed to pitch France into the forefront of any moves to unify Europe, while at the same time making no firm commitment to do anything more definite than to offer support. It brought all members to their feet to applaud.

Sir Henry Plumb, leader of the Conservative group, tried to capture some of the idealism, although he was "saddened that some colleagues speak as if (the budget problem) were caused by one country."

Leading article, page 13

Chernenko loses to Kremlin hardliners

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Chernenko has decisively lost a three-month struggle to swing Soviet policy back to détente. Sources here say power in the Kremlin is largely in the hands of hard-line members of the "old guard", headed by Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Defence Minister, and Mr Andre Gromyko, the Foreign Minister.

The turning point is believed to have come last month, when Mr Chernenko was elected president and party leader. This gave him the trappings of power and a swiftly constructed personality cult, culminating in the May Day parade. But sources say he has paid a political price by allowing the Politburo hard-liners to gain the upper hand over more conciliatory leaders such as Mr Mikhail Gorbachov.

The victimization of Dr Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Elena Bonner, in the face of western protests, is seen as part of the Kremlin's new uncompromising line. Other elements include the withdrawal from the Olympics and the massive and brutal April offensive in Afghanistan.

When Mr Chernenko took over from Yuri Andropov as party leader on February 13, observers noted his espousal of détente, the policy associated with Mr Brezhnev, his mentor. In talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Vice-President Bush during the Andropov funeral, Mr Chernenko offered hope of a "better understanding" between East and West.

He initially avoided reiterating Mr Andropov's tough conditions for resumption of the Geneva arms talks, implying a compromise might be reached over European missiles. In a speech to supreme Soviet electors on March 2, he said détente had struck deep roots.

On the eve of the Supreme Soviet session on April 11, however, Mr Chernenko said in a *Pravda* interview there was no point in talking to the Reagan Administration. Adopting a tone of sorrow rather than anger, said no signs of American readiness ot compromise could be discerned.

Diplomats say the Kremlin's off-hand treatment of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, this week "bordered on the deliberately insulting". Herr Genscher was given no hint of compromise over Moscow's insistence on the withdrawal of cruise and Pershing 2, or on the case of Dr Sakharov.

The tough line on human rights, the Olympic withdrawal and Marshal Ustinov's recent warning of retaliation an counter-measures over missile deployments seem to have been aimed at President Reagan. Mr Gromyko and his allies see Mr Reagan as the communist equivalent of the anti-Christ, a diplomat said.

US scolded for Asian meddling

From Our Own Correspondent Moscow

President Chernenko yesterday condemned "aggressive attempts" by the Reagan Administration to "divide and rule" in Asia by forging a military and political alliance with Japan and South Korea.

Accompanied by President Kim Il-Sung of North Korea, who arrived in Moscow on Wednesday after a six-day train journey, Mr Chernenko accused American imperialism of using colonialist methods to disunite the peoples of Asia and set one country against another. He also accused China of hegemony.

The Kremlin has taken an increasingly hard line with Washington and Peking, refusing to compromise over contentious East-West issues and cancelling a trip to China this month by the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister.

President Kim, aged 72, is making his first visit to the Soviet Union for nearly 20 years. He has rules North Korea as dictator for twice that period, and is deified in Pyongyang as the great leader. Mr Chernenko, also aged 72, has been praised as a great leader, but only since coming to power three months ago.

Sources say Moscow's tough policy is guided by the senior leaders who stood at Mr Chernenko's elbow yesterday: Mr Andrei Gromyko, Marshal Dimitry Ustinov and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov. Against expectations, President Kim was not accompanied by his son and designated heir, Kim Jong Il.

Mr Chernenko, who has not been able to resolve the succession problem in a similar way, was flanked at arrival ceremonies by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, his apparent heir.

Diplomats said yesterday's talks showed Moscow was trying to forge closer links with North Korea, which under President Kim has kept equidistant between the Soviet Union and China, occasionally tilting towards Peking.

Mr Chernenko said good Sino-Soviet realtions were vital for Asia, but added that a *rapprochement* could not be expected in a brief period, or after a single conference. He agreed with President Kim on the need for the peaceful reunification of Korea, but did not say how this could be achieved. The Kremlin is suspcious of President Kim's proposal – on January 4 for tripartite talks involving North South Korea and the United States, which has about 40,000 troops in the south.

Faces of shame: the five guardsmen on trial for the rape and murder of four US churchwomen hang their heads in court.

Salvador guardsmen guilty of nuns' murder

From John Carlin Zacatecoluca

A jury decided unanimously yesterday that five national guardsmen accused of murdering three American nuns and one lay missionary were all guilty. The trial lasted just 18 hours – normal in Salvadorean law – and took place in Zacatecoluca, a town 40 miles south-east of San Salvador, near the site where the guardsmen raped and murdered the four women on December 2, 1980.

The judge has not passed sentence yet, although the convicted men are expected to be jailed for between 20 and 30 years. Ironically, the death sentence does not exist in El Salvador.

The US Government might have been expected to react with something like the mixture of relief and satisfaction with which they greeted the election of the moderate Señor Jose Napoleón Duarte as President two weeks ago.

The question now remains whether the trial verdicts will prove merely to be a convenient symbol for President Reagan to sanction continued military aid or whether the case will set a precedent that will benefit the Salvadorean people.

The prosecution case was powerfully stated, and received with enthusiasm by most townspeople in the courtroom, who were convinced from the beginning of the guardsmen's guilt.

A shoe repairer, aged 58, said he had come to the courtroom from San Vicente, two hours away, "to see justice done". He kept a vigil at the uninterrupted trial, hoping, he said, that the cause of human rights in his country might for once receive a boost.

The performance by defence lawyers appeared perfunctory, at times unintelligible, creating the impression in the courtroom that the defendants had thrown in the towel even before the trial began. The jury, composed of three men and two women, deliberated for only 40 minutes, before announcing its decision.

At one point late on Wednesday night one of the prosecution lawyers produced four photographs of the murdered women and, addressing the jury, asked: "How can you kill four women in the prime of life?" He then turned dramatically towards the five defendants, sitting side by side in the dock, stuck the photographs in front of their faces, and raged: "Look, look, they don't even have the courage to raise their eyes to look at them." The guardsmen bowed their heads, an attitude they maintained

● WASHINGTON: The verdict was widely welcomed on Capitol Hill but most Congressmen remain convinced that without US pressure the trial would never have been held. The provision of $19m (£13.86m) in aid has been held up pending a verdict.

There is a widespread feeling on Capitol Hill that other, more senior people were implicated in the crime.

Nicaraguans must pay more for food

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

The Sandinista Government is preparing severe action to meet its deepening economic crisis. Basic food prices are expected to go up, some by over 30 per cent, along with taxes on most goods, services and petrol.

The state is also planning to seize control of the food distribution apparatus in an effort to stamp out the rampant black market in basic necessities.

Staple foodstuffs such as rice, maize, beans and sugar are subsidized in Nicaragua to the tune of $74m (about £51m) a year but, despite the subsidy, inflation, measured by the cost of the basic family shopping basket, was 45 per cent last year.

Small farmers and peasants find it cheaper to buy food at subsidized prices than to grow it themselves and farm labourers can earn more by selling some scarce item at the roadside than by working on the land, all of which has proved a strong disincentive to production in a country hoping in the long term to achieve self-sufficiency in food.

An unpublished report on food supply for the ruling Sandanista Front accepts that the state system has been unable to resist speculation on the black market resulting in a gradual loss of government control over the economy.

As one high-ranking Sandanista official put it: "People understand why there are shortages. What they don't understand is why scarce products can be bought on the free market at 20 times the official price."

In order to stimulate production, the Government is planning to raise the prices it pays to farmers at present for their produce but with no corresponding increase in the consumer subsidy. Rises in basic food prices will add 13 per cent to the cost of the average family shopping basket.

Petrol is also likely to go up – one oil company source said the price may even be doubled – and higher taxes are expected on most goods and services.

There is to be increased state control of the distribution system

Greater resources are to be made available to the Ministry of Internal Trade to buy more lorries and make deliveries more reliable.

Government leaders have also made it clear in recent public statements that their priority in supplying food will be the tens of thousands of youngsters at the front fighting an increasingly intense war agianst the US-backed Contras. In practice, this is likely to bring more frequent shortages to the capital and other main towns which have in the past been spared the worst effects of the crisis.

On top of this, low production levels, US trade sanctions, unfavourable world conditions and the cost of the war against American-backed rebels have brought serious shortages. When the housewife goes to the supermarket or her local state store she often finds only empty shelves while many of the things she needs are available, though beyond her reach at exorbitant prices, on an open and hitherto uncontrolled black market.

Ho warning about troops

President Reagan has been instructed by the House of Representatives not to send American combat troops into El Salvador or Nicaragua unless there is a "clear and present danger" to the US, its Embassy or its citizens.

The decision was approved by 341 votes to 64. It was inserted as an amendment to a $208bn defence authorization Bill for the next financial year, beginning on October 1. Republicans, who say they were taken by surprise because they had been given to understand that the amendment would be symbolic and inoffensive, are determined to defeat the amendment before the final vote on the Bill.

Air attack on ship off Saudi coast

From Robert Fisk, Bahrain

Salvage tugs were heading into the Gulf from Bahrain last night to go to the aid of the stricken 17,000-ton merchant ship Chemical Venture after its captain reported being attacked by a rocket-firing F4 jet 20 miles from the coast of Saudi Arabia.

The aircraft, which was almost certainly Iranian – the Iraqis are not known to possess any F4s – dived to attack the Liberian-registered vessel just before dusk and only hours after President Saddam Husain of Iraq had announced that his air force had undertaken raids on two ships south of Kharg island.

A Saudi naval vessel picked up the crew of the Chemical Venture, although one report in Bahrain stated that fire had broken out on the vessel. It was the first air attack on a ship in the Gulf in almost a week and it awakened the deepest fears among the Arab supporters of Iraq that the Gulf war, far from being smothered in the latest Syrian peace initiative, was about to spread still further afield.

During the morning, the Syrians had been claiming that Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, their Foreign Minister, had agreed with the Iranians that the war should not be broadened and that the Iranians had decided that they would no longer attack shipping in the Gulf.

President Saddam Husain's announcement that his own aircraft had hit two ships south of Kharg island — "further confirmation," the Iraqis said "of Iraq's determination to tighten the blockade on the Iranian oil terminal" – seems to have prompted the assault on the Liberian ship.

In fact, the Iraqi jets appear to have missed their targets off Kharg, one of which was said to be the oil tanker Arizona. In any event, peace initiatives in the Gulf region are evidently no more successful now than they have been over the past three years.

● WASHINGTON: The Reagan Administration is to make another attempt to persuade Congress to sell hundreds of anti-aircraft Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia to enhance defences against future Iranian attacks on Gulf shipping (Christopher Thomas writes).

Congress has previously refused permission but the Administration believes the worsening Iran-Iraq conflict may have changed sentiment on Capitol Hill. It will seek authority to sell 1,200 of the portable, shoulder-held missiles at a cost of $140m (£100m) apparently in response to an urgent request from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

The Stinger, which is five feet long, has a heat-seeking infrared device which can fix on moving, airborne targets up to a range of about 3.1 miles. It is effective against low-flying aircraft.

Dr Monica Kristensen, aged 33, who is to be the first woman to lead a polar expedition when she sets off for the South Pole with two British colleagues next year. She holds a doctorate in glaciology from Cambridge University and is a veteran of several expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic. At present she is based at Ny Alesund, in Spitzbergen, the most northerly settlement in the world, where she is studying melting sea ice and populations of plankton.

Afghans face famine

More than 500,000 people in Afghanistan face death through famine unless they get immediate aid, a report backed by the British Government says. Soviet operations against Afghan rebels have disrupted Afghanistan's fragile economy and led to the threat of widespread starvation.

Afghan Aid is calling for help to be channelled through the country's Mujahidin rebels. The report, by Dr Frances de Souza, was funded by the Overseas Development Administration and includes surveys in Afghanistan and extensive interviews with rebel leaders, refugees and journalists.

She said yesterday that her investigations revealed all the classic prefamine indicators. "There are half a million people at extreme risk who need help immediately if they are going to survive."

Widespread famine, she said, would lead to the collapse of anti-Soviet resistance and a fresh influx of refugees

Dr De Souza will visit the United Nations next month to lobby for international aid.

This would include the rebels, who have set up local government systems in the areas they control.

Leading article, page 13

Judge praises black's killer

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

A man who shot dead an intruder who stole his milk money, worth about 35p, has been acquitted of murder by a South African judge and told that he "deserved a medal". There had been no more thefts since the incident, the judge said, and the accused has "rendered service to the community".

The verdict and more especially the judge's accompanying remarks, delivered this week in the Rand Supreme Court, seem set to cause a legal storm. The judge, Mr Irving Steyn, said that "if I had to catch somebody inside my house I'd shoot him."

The accused in the two-day trial was Mr Francisco Quintino, a white Johannesburg bus driver. The victim was Mr Macks Lerutla, a black with a prison record for attempted housebreaking. That racial overtones will be detected in the verdict is inevitable in the South African context.

Mr Quintino told the court how he rigged up a booby trap after the money he put out for the milkman had been pilfered several times. He tied one end of a length of string to his front gate and the other to a tin can in his bedroom. He then left the milk money as bait on the window sill.

He was woken by the tin being pulled across the floor. He said that he saw a shape of someone outside the window. The intruder pulled open the window, which had been left slightly ajar, and took the money.

Mr Quintino said the grabbed a loaded gun which he always kept in the drawer of his bedside table and shouted: "Don't move. I am going to call the police". The intruder then dropped down below the window and Mr Quintino fired a warning shot beyond him into the ground. He then fired again but as he did the burglar unexpectedly stood up and took the bullet in the chest.

The counsel for the prosecution argued that Mr Quintino had no idea who his intruder was. "The thief could have been a schoolboy", he said. The judge dismissed this objection. "How was he [the accused] to know that the pussy cat he caught was not a raging tiger?" he asked.

Death toll in Bombay riots climbs to 193

Bombay (AFP, Reuter) – Police opened fire on violent mobs in four areas of Bombay yesterday, shattering hopes of an early return to normal, as the official death toll from a week of Hindu-Muslim clashes climbed to 193.

Violence spread to new areas, with groups attacking police pickets and raiding shops and government buildings. Seventeen people sustained burns when a mob attacked a train in central Bombay, hurling light bulbs filled with acid.

In Punjab, stone-throwing militant Sikhs rampaged through the holy city of Amritsar in an attempt to disrupt election meetings of Mrs Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party.

British soldiers are jailed

Hongkong (AP) – Two British soldiers who went on the rampage from the Wanchai red-light district to Kai Tak airport last November, were sentenced to imprisonment by the High Court yesterday.

Guardsman William Downs, agedd 22, of Glasgow, was entenced to four years and Private Malcolm Chambers, aged 20, of Omagh, Northern Ireland, to three years. They pleaded guilty to stealing a rifle and a military car, possession of arms, false imprisonment and shooting with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

Husband must pay reward

Camerino, Italy (Reuter) – A court ordered Mr Stephen May, the husband of Jeannette May, to pay a reward of nearly £10,710 to a hunter who found her body and that of a friend after they disappeared in 1980.

The lawyer for Domenico Panunti, the man who found them, said he would lodge an appeal and continue to seek the full 100m lire (£41,000) offered by Mr May for information on his wife.

Astiz for trial

Buenos Aires (AFP) – Navy Captain Alfedo Astiz, accused of human rights violations under Argentina's military regime, has been handed over to military authorities to be prosecuted for surrendering to the British without resistance in the South Georgia Islands.

Envoys expelled

Copenhagen – Denmark yesterday expelled two senior Soviet diplomats for alleged industrial espionage. Both were employed in the commercial section of the Soviet Embassy. They were given 14 days to leave.

Pyrenees find



Madame Françoise Claustre the French archaeologist who was held hostage by Chad guerrillas from April 1974 until January 1977, announced yesterday the discovery of a 6,000-year-old burial site at Balesta, near the Spanish border in the eastern Pyrenees. The French National Centre for Scientific Research said it was "one of the most important Mediterranean burial sites of the Neolithic period ever found".

Cahill freed

New York (Reuter) – Joseph Cahill, aged 64, co-chairman of Provisional Sinn Fein, was freed yesterday from a federal jail after his supporters raised $150,000 (£107,100) bail. He was arrested here last Thursday by the FBI and accused of entering the United States illegally on March 10.

Grenada cutback

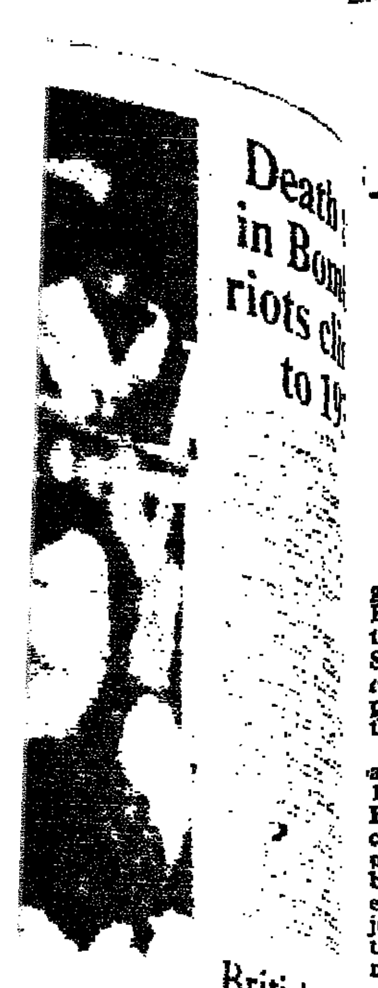
St Georges (Reuter) – Grenada's interim Government has cut expenditure by 17 per cent to 211m Eastern Caribbean dollars (£50m) in its budget for the 1984/85 finacial year. The largest single item in the budget is Greanada's new international airport, said to be needed for tourisim.

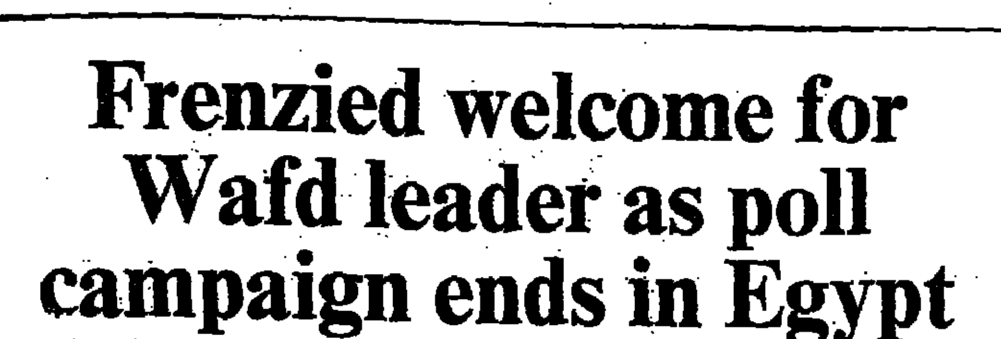
Drivers win

Copenhagen (AP) – About 3,000 Bus drivers began returning to work yesterday in a victorious mood after a strike which forced the Copenhagen transport authority to discuss nine colleagues who joined a non-socialist trade union.

Wrong course

Taipei (Reuter) – Police are investigating a pigeon race in which more than 2,000 birds took part but only five returned. The rest apparently ended their lives on the tables of local restaurants, after being trapped in giant hilltop nets along the race route.





Frenzied welcome for Wafd leader as poll campaign ends in Egypt

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

A crowd of nearly 10,000 gave a frenzied welcome to Mr Fuad Serageddin, the leader of the new Wafd Party, in Cairo's Saiyeda Zeinab district during one of the last political rallies permitted before Egypt goes to the polls on Sunday.

The election has been heralded as the freest since the 1952 revolution against King Farouk. But with television campaigning restricted to 40 minutes per party and the blatant vote-rigging of the Sadat era fresh in the memory, judgment is being reserved until the results have been announced.

"Where is the press? This is the real leader", the crowd shouted as Mr Serageddin, aged 77, a pathetically frail-looking figure, was given the type of welcome normally reserved for a star. He was general secretary of the Wafd when it was banned by the leaders of the 1952 resolution. (It was made illegal again by President Sadat).

Tarik Elkhoury, a young doctor explained the reason for the chanting as I was hoisted on to a chair by Wafd supporters anxious that somebody should record their litany of complaints against the Government – though not, they added, against President Mubarak, who was widely praised for permitting Egypt's "democratic experiment".

The doctor, who bore witness to the freer atmosphere by insisting that his full name was used said: "We know the Egyptian papers and television will not be permitted to report this. The Government would prefer people to think we do not exist."

Significantly, one of the Wafd's main electoral assets has turned out to be the President's brother, Sami, who told another crowded Cairo rally: "I am Wafd because it is the only party in Egypt that has never imprisoned or tortured anyone."

The New Wafd, a traditional party of protest stretching back to opposition to British rule in the First World War, has now become an umbrella incongruously embracing Muslim fundamentalists and the secular middle class, including Coptic Christians. "It is a vehicle for anyone who is fed up, who wants change", explained one analyst.

The Wafd is confidently expected to come second to the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) led by President Mubarak, with probably only the leftist *Tagammu* among the other contestants succeeding in winning the minimum 8 per cent of the total vote needed to return deputies to the 448 parliamentary seats.

In the closing days of the campaign, doubts about the extent to which the NDP will permit polling to be genuinely free have begun to resurface, especially since security forces broke up a recent Wafd rally.

But outside observers still seem prepared to give Mr Mubarak the benefit of the doubt. "This is his way of putting his stamp on Egyptian history", explained one. "He has taken a risk, but at least people can say Mubarak has done something that Nasser and Sadat did not do."

At present the Parliament is mainly a rubber stamp, but in 1987 it will have to provide Mr Mubarak with two-thirds support if he is to enjoy another term as president. Although all but his most cautious ministerial colleagues are confident that Sunday's poll will ensure that, it is acknowledged that it is still to early to predict how deputies elected by 13 million voters with a long list of grievances will react.

Radicals win more seats in Iranian parliament

By Hazhir Teimourian

Iran's Islamic Radicals have made sweeping gains in the country's parliamentary elections, the final round of which was held on May 17. With almost 90 per cent of the results declared, including those in Tehran, it is clear that the advocates of an ill-defined mixture of Islam and Marxism gathered around President Ali Khamenei will have a larger majority in the new Majlis (Parliament) to be inaugurated next Tuesday.

The Radicals were also in the majority in the outgoing Majlis, but two of their most important Bills on the distribution of land and the nationalization of foreign trade were blocked as un-Islamic by Conservative theologians in the Council of Guardians, a body set up to vet parliamentary Acts for adherence to the rules of Islam.

With a fresh mandate and a stronger majority for the Radicals, it will be more difficult for the council to stop the passage of such Bills indefinitely, and Ayatollah Khomeini, who did not take sides on economic issues in the outgoing Majlis may decide to back the Radicals this time.

Some of the Conservatives, such as the Deputy Speaker, Mr Muhammad Yazdi, scraped though in the final round, but they will find themselves in a much weakened position. The new Majlis will also include a number of lone wolves, such as the notorious Islamic judge, Hojatoleslam Sadeq Khalkhali, who won in the first round in the hardline holy city of Qom depiste not being included on the recommended list of the Islamic Republican Party, the only party still free to contest elections in Iran.

By past conduct, Ayatollah Khomeini will alone decide the fate of the most crucial issue facing the country, the war with Iraq, though the Parliament may be asked to take a formal vote on it should the Ayatollah *come round to the idea of a* peaceful settlement. However, the new Parliament and the Council of Guardians will still be confronted by some vital decisions on the economy and the future direction of the country.

A decision on the ownership of about 2.5 milliion acres of Arab land needs to be taken urgently; the country imports more than two million tonnes of wheat annually and much of the industry inherited from the *time of the Shah is in a state of* collapse because of the flight of its former management and the plummeting of home demand after the revolution.

● **MADRID:** American claims that Spain is reexporting sensitive war material from the United States to Iran are vague and unfounded, sources close to the Government said (Harry *Debelius writes*).

According to a report in the Madrid daily newspaper *El Pais*, the US Ambassador to Madrid, Mr Thomas Enders, *complained to the Minister of* Foreign Affairs, Señor Fernando Morán, in a meeting between the two on April 27, that high technology items made in the US were finding their way to Iran via Spain.

The embassy said: "The Ambasador does discuss such matters with the Foreign Minister from time to time," but added that the conversations were considered private, and no details would be disclosed.

Nato session to set tone for conciliation

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The thirty-fifth anniversary meeting of Nato foreign ministers, which opens in Washington on Tuesday, is expected to approve a study which will set the tone for the alliance's "deterence and dialogue" approach to the Soviet block into the next decade.

The dual themes of the study are a readiness among the 16 member states to continue and expand dialogue with the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact partners, but a clear-cut warning to Moscow that the alliance will not make any concessions merely to lure the Soviet Union back to the nuclear negotiating table.

This year's spring ministerial *council session is particularly* significant as it will be the first time that Nato Foreign Ministers have met since President Chernenko's accession to power *in Moscow.*

The meeting takes place when relations between Washington and Moscow are at their lowest level in years, with the Soviet Union still bridling over Nato's decision to go ahead with the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles last *December to counter the Soviet* SS20 missile build-up. The Nato move led to the Soviet walk-out from the Geneva Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) missile talks.

The meeting will hear an up-to-date report on the mood in the Kremlin from Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher who has just returned empty-handed from Moscow. The Soviet leaders bluntly rejected his plea to return to the INF negotiating table.

The study, which the ministers will review during their special restricted session in a secluded manor house at the historic Wye Plantation on the eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay, was set in train last year by Mr Leo Tindemanns, the Belgian Foreign Minister. It is essentially an update of the Harmel report which has *provided the framework for* Nato's relations with the Soviet block for the past 17 years.

The study will not be made public but its essential points will be *contained in the* meeting's final communiqué.

A senior Reagan Administration official closely involved *in preparations for the council* meeting said the communiqué would empasize four points – alliance solidarity; the maintenance of an adequate nuclear and *conventional defence posture* that not only protects the alliance but also gives the Russians an Incentive to negotiate; an openness to increase dialogue with Moscow; an appeal for a "more reasonable attitude" by the Kremlin on a range of issues including arms *control and human rights.*

Although they try not show it, the Americans are concerned about sharp divisions in the Dutch Parliament on the *deployment of 48 cruise missiles* in The Netherlands.

US officials still hope the Dutch coalition Government will fulfil its deployment responsibilities. But even if Dutch deployment fails to take place, the officials believe this would not adversely affect Nato's plan *to deploy 572 Pershing 2 and* cruise missiles over the next four year.

● **VIENNA:** The thirty-third round of talks on Mutual *Balanced Force Reductions* began in Vienna yesterday with the Warsaw Pact formally dismissing Nato's latest proposal for reducing conventional forces in central Europe (Richard Bassett writes).

The proposal which involves what western diplomats here *have called a substantial effort* on Nato's side, distinguishes between support and combat units.

Greeks told of other dumped stowaways

From Mario Modiano
Athens

A high-level Kenyan delegation visiting Athens to urge action *over the case of 11* stowaways on the Greek ship Garyfalia, who were allegedly thrown overboard in the shark-infested *Indian Ocean*, stated that there had been two similar cases.

Mr Bernard Muntho, the Kenyan Foreign Under-Secretary *who is leading the group*, said that three years ago two Kenyans were put into the sea by a Greek ship about 50 miles from Mombasa. "They were saved by *fishermen.*"

Towards the end of 1982 four Tanzanian and two Kenyan stowaways on another Greek *ship had also been made to walk* the plank. Four were rescued later, but two disappeared. The minister refused to name the ships. "We believe that the 11 *stowaways this year were all* lost," he said.

The delegation, which includes a public prosecutor, an MP who is also secretary-general of Kenyan's seamen's union, and a diplomat, called on Wednesday on Mr George Katsifaras, the Greek Minister *of Merchant Marine, for what* they called an exchange of information. The minister had assured them that punishment, both penal and disciplinary, would be severe.

Captain Antonis Plytzanopoulos, master of the Garyfalia, and 10 crew were remanded in custody pending trial

The Athens newspaper *Nea* also claimed that the Greek authorities were investigating a case involving a *Greek-owned* Cypriot ship whose captain was alleged to have forced four African stowaways into the sea on a raft 35 miles from the *Congolese coast last January.*

All smiles: The Queen leaving the town hall in Celle, West Germany, yesterday after signing the visitors' book

Greenjackets stage battle for Queen

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

On the third day of a visit to *British troops in West Germany*, the Queen yesterday watched a mock battle fought by the Second Battalion The Royal Greenjackets at their *training ground just outside* Celle.

Under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jon Beddard, a squadron from the Royal Greenjackets, of which the Queen is Colonel-in-Chief, attacked in tanks enemy positions held by the Royal Scots *Dragoon Guards*. Unlike Mrs Thatcher who rode in a Chiefan tank during a similar exercise last year, the Queen watched the battle from a viewing stand.

The Queen, who has lunch with the soldiers in the field, also started a sponsored charity run by eight men from the *Royal Greenjackets who are* hoping to run from Celle to London – a distance of about *470 miles – in 72 hours*. She handed a black baton to one of the men taking part, which is raising funds for cancer research

One of the men taking part, *Staff Sergeant Hayden Thomas* of the Army Phsyical Training Corps, has himself recovered from cancer. Apart from the channel crossing, the men will run all the way to the headquarters of the Fourth Battalion of The Royal Greenjackets in Davies Street, in the West End of London.

The Queen arrived in Celle, a garrison town in northern Germany, yesterday morning from Dortmund. On arrival she was greeted by City officials in the town hall and signed the Golden Book for visitors. In the afternoon she gave a reception in a marquee for members of the regiment and their families.

Warning of sanctions for rival Olympics

Rome (AP) – Signor Franco *Carraro, president of the Italian* Olympic Committee and head of the European Olympic committees, said yesterday that *organizers of any rival event* during the Los Angeles Olympics will risk sanctions.

There have been claims that the Soviet Union and its allies might arrange separate competitions for their athletes. "Whoever organizes international events of Olympic sports during this period [of the Los Angeles Games] violates *the regulations* and therefore faces sanctions", Signor Carraro said.

The Olympic Charter prohibits members from arranging events during the Games, and the official *statements* of Eastern block countries have emphasized their support of the Charter.

Signor Carraro said he supported the participation in Los Angeles of judges and referees from the Soviet block. *"The judges will be accredited* by international federations and those who say they don't want them [the judges], infringe upon *the Olympic regulations.*"

Signor Carraro called for measures to keep future Games from being embroiled in political controversies. He said Seoul, the site of the 1988 *Games*, is a "dangerous place for the universality of the Games . . . it was so even before the Los Angeles boycott".

●**HAVANA:** *Cuba* has become the tenth country to withdraw from the Games, prompting the Los Angeles organizer to accuse Moscow of interference (Reuter reports).

The Cuban Olympic Committee said it could not ignore "the violation of the Olympic principles and norms, trampled *on by the Los Angeles organizers*". Mr Peter Ueberroth replied that it was "further evidence of the Soviets' unconscionable *campaign to strong*-arm other nations. It is a Soviet blockade of Cuban athletes who wanted more than anything to compete and excel in the 1984 Games".

Cuba's reasons for staying away were similar to those given by the Soviet Union. The committee said: "We were concerned particularly about the lack of security organizations. . .and the development of a virulent campaign against the presence of socialist and revolutionary countries".

In the 1980 Moscow Olympics, *boycotted by the United* States and several other countries as a result of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, *Cuba came fourth* with 20 medals, mostly in boxing and track events.

The star Cuban heavyweight boxer, Teofilo Stevenson, had hoped to win a record-breaking fourth gold medal in Los Angeles, but his Olympic career now appears to be over.

Poland's maritime Mafia

Death and duplicity on the high seas

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

"Man overboard" or even "the captain's missing" are *distress calls which seem to* echo with mysterious frequency on Polish vessels in distant waters. According to an unofficial tally, at least three captains, a first officer, chief engineer, fourth engineer, steward and a deckhand disappeared, in violent and not fully explained circumstances, between *1981* and *1983.*

The *case of the chief* engineer is fairly typical. In April 1983, the MS Lodz was moored in the port of Douala in *Cameroon. It was known that* he did not disembark and a search of the ship, ordered by the captain, revealed nothing.

The next morning, the police dredged *his body from the* harbour, hands chained and weighed down by a fire extinguisher from the ship. The crew was interrogated but few facts emerged and the ship was allowed to sail. In Szczecin, the public prosecutor is still looking *into the case*. Local reporters believe he will have to abandon it for lack of evidence.

After years of silence about incidents at sea, the Polish press and sailors are beginning *to speak openly. The* deaths and disappearances reflect the extraordinary degree of organized crime on board merchant vessels. *It may be significant*, for example, that a search of the hold of the MS Lodz – carried out before the chief *engineer's death* – revealed 600 carpets privately purchased by sailors during a stopover in Western Europe.

The pay is so low - 15,000 zloties (*about £107*) a month plus a small hard-currency allowance for ratings – and the conditions are so poor that smuggling *is viewed by many sailors as a legitimate part of* the job. But it needs complex organization and, to function well, the conspiratorial code of *the Mafia*. "Trading companies" are set up within the crew, and those who refuse t cooperate are suspect.

The journalist, Stanisla *Kubiak, who prepared a repo* for the *Communist* Part Central Committee, says sai ors can often be seen haulin their booty out of Gdyni Harbour by lorry, with docke *working for them as porter* Contraband is hidden in fi extinguishers, the walls of col storage rooms (the insulatio having *first been removed*) ventilation ducts and lifebo gear. The best business is don on the Asian and Africa *routes*. The penalties – fo example, smuggling Polis vodka into Arab countries – a severe, but the profits corres *pondingly high*.

The *captains and* officer almost invariably "disappear on the lucrative routes. Th MS Jelenia Gora was carryin 2,500 illegal bottles of spirit t Africa when it lost its captai The implication is clear, bu prosecutors are short of ev dence *and there is no incentiv* for the many innocent sailors t denounce the gangs.

The barrier of inhibition wa broken in February by Captai Walenty Milenuszkin fro Gdansk who revealed tha millions of zloties worth o contraband was regularly arriv *ing on the Baltic coast*. Suc smuggling had eroded disc pline to such an extent th vessels were breaking dow *going up in flames and runni* aground with increasing fr quency, he said.

As wages were so low, th actual day-to-day work neede *to maintain safety standar* and the quality of seamanshi was being neglected in favour o the port-to-port illicit trading.

The cause has now bee *taken up by the maritim* commission of Pron, the "patr otic front" which groups th Communist Party with its no party sympathizers, and eve by the hard-line Marxi newspaper, *Reality*.

Lagos foils ruling on detainees

From Eddie Iroh
Lagos

Three political detainees won a High Court order preventing their *trial* by Nigeria's specal military tribunal in Lagos, but within minutes the Government announced two new retroactive decrees which annul that victory.

Mr Moshood Adio, a federal attorney, told the court that the prohibition order sought by the detainees "had been overtaken" *by the two decrees issued by the* ruling Supreme Military Council last Thursday.

The detainees, the former state governors Mr *Bola Ige* (Oyo state), Mr Michael Ajasin (Ondo) and Mr Olabisi Onabanjo (Ogun), had argued that the tribunal, established after *the military coup of December* 31 last year, could not try them for offences allegedly committed six months earlier. They are accused of receiving 2.8m naira (£2.7m) in "kickbacks" on contracts.

Ruling on the issue of the court's jurisdiction, Justice Omotosoo held that *the charges* against the men were "outside the legal orbit of the decree which created the tribunal".

● A second military tribunal, in the northern city of Kaduna, was opened yesterday (Reuter reports). A total of five military tribunals are due to be set up to try 520 detainees, former politicians, officials and businessmen who are accused of corruption.

Inquiry call after death of Aborigina

From Tony Duboudin
Melbourne

Aboriginal leaders in Weste Australia are calling for a roy *commission to investigate* t death of an aboriginal you after the acquittal of fo policemen and an aborigin police aide of the manslaught *of John Pat, aged 16.*

The youth died in poli custody after a brawl outside public house in Roebourne, 9 miles north-west of Perth, la *September*.

The court decision came la on Wednesday, and yesterd the reaction among aborigin *was bitter, relations between th* black community and th police, not good at the best times, have sunk to a new low.

John Pat's father, Mr Mi Lee, *said members of his trib* would meet to decide wh should be done. Mr Lee said wanted tribal law used, as put it, to damage the policeme *the way they damaged his so* He refused to specify wh action could be taken und tribal law.

The jury on Wednesday too 6½ hours to reach a decisi and at one stage came back t ask the trial judge to repeat th legal definition of manslaught and *accident*.

Fifty-seven witnesses, inclu ing the five accused, ga evidence during the 3½ wee *trial. The jury* was told that th youth had been kicked an beaten and that that ha contributed to his death.

Vietnam accuses China

Hanoi (AFP)–Six people were killed and seven wounded when Chinese troops shelled the Vietnamese town of Ha Giang, 12 miles from the border, the Vietnamese news agency reported.

On Tuesday, Chinese regular troops fired 130mm shells at the 15,000-population town, destroying many homes and public buildings, according to official sources.

The incident marked the fir time a Vietnamese town ha been targeted since fightin between the two sides broke ou in early April, and is likely t have serious political impli cations, a Vietnamese sourc said.

Vietnamese newspapers ye terday railed against the "ex pansionist designs of the Chi nese aggressors" and "acts o terror".

Maya find is best since 1968

By Norman Hammond
Archaeological Correspondent

The discovery of an intact Maya royal tomb, reported in *The Times* yesterday, is unusual for two reasons: Such tombs are *usually buried deep* beneath massive pyramids, where they are difficult to excavate; and in all too many cases looters have already used bulldozers or explosives to penetrate the structures and get at the contents of the burial.

The site of Rio Azul in Guatemala, where the discovery of an unlooted tomb was reported *had* been heavily robbed already and the expedition led by Professor Richard Adams, of the University of Texas, has gone there to *record the mural paintings of* the opend tombs and to rescue any remaining evidence from the site.

The last *time* a tomb of such importance was found was in 1968, at the site of Altun Ha in Belize, when a royal *burial* was *found accompanied* buy a 10lb jade head of the Maya sun god.

Prior to that the burial of the important ruler Ah Cacau, king *of Tikal, also in Guatemala*, was *discovered beneath his massive* funerary pyramid in the early 1960s, and in 1952 the most famous of all Maya fombs, the *elaborately carved* sarcophagus of Pacal, ruler of Palenque from AD 615 to 684, was found at the base of a hidden stairway guarded by *six sacrificed* youths.

The reports from Rio Azul suggest that the present discovery is the earliest and most *elaborate* burial to be found by *archaeologists for some years.* The tripod pottery vessels inicate cultural contacts with the great city of Teotihacan, *near modern* Mexico City, several hundred miles west of Rio Azul, while the screw-top jar is a fascinating indication that Archmedes had a pre-Columbian emulator in the *tropical* forest of Central America.

Professor Adams, who first explored the site in the mid-1960s, is a *former* Fellow of Churchill College, Cambridge.





Maya treasures: *Elaborate paintings cover the walls of the Mayan tomb discovered at Rio Azul in Guatemala*; and the most valuable single find, a decorated ceramic pot.

24 more death sentences in Gambia treason trials

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar

Twenty-four men have been sentenced to death in The Gambia recently. These are the last of the death sentences to be imposed during the country's long-running treason trials.

The trials, which *began in* November, 1982, and are now drawing to a close, followed the arrest of about 1,100 people for involvement in the abortive coup of July, 1981, which took place while *President* Dawda Jawara was in London attending The Prince of Wales's wedding.

A total of 63 *people* have been sentenced to death. So far however, none of the sentences has been carried out. They have been commuted to terms of imprisonment either by the *Court of Appeal or by President* Jawara himself. Appeals on these last 24 death sentences have been postponed until November.

Five men and one woman, arrested in October last year under state of emergency security laws brought in after *the attempted coup* and recently renewed, have been released They were brought to trial in April accused of involvement in an unlawful political society. Their imprisonment in Banjul's Two Mile *prison* attracted foreign attention, and it is thought that their trial and acquittal could have been influenced by this fact.

Amnesty International is understood to have intervened

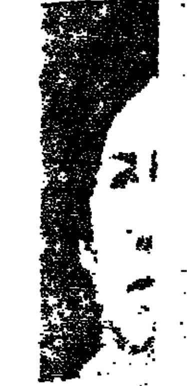
Panama march protests at election result

Panama City (Reuter) – Panama's opposition leader led 4,000 people through the capital yesterday to protest at the result of the country's first presidential election in 16 years.

Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, aged 82, lodged a protest with an electoral *tribunal* which declared on Sunday that the May 6 poll was won by the official party candidate, Señor Nicolás Ardito Barletta.

A spokesman said Dr Arias, who heads the Democratic Opposition Alliance, contested the verdict because the tribunal *threw out legal challenges* to many results. The opposition claimed the disputed results would reverse the slim 1,713-vote majority given to Señor Ardito Barletta.

No incidents were reported during the march. Dr Arias has been elected President of Panama three times



SPECTRUM

Through a lens, lovingly



Renée Perle was at one time mistress to the Pasha of Marrakesh. She and Lartigue had an affair for two years. She was always a snappy dresser. The photograph of her at Biarritz in 1930 is so elegant, and yet totally unposed. It is obvious that Lartigue could have been a top line fashion photographer had he wanted



Jacques-Henri Lartigue, possibly the most celebrated amateur photographer this century, was born at Courbevoie in France on June 13, 1894, writes **Michael Young**. In 1901 he was given a camera by his father. He was seven years old and able to write in his journal: "Photography is a magic thing, a bit strange and frightening, but something you learn to love quickly. Now I will be able to make portraits of everything, pictures of the people I see and like and love."

At first the people he loved were those who inhabited his small, exclusive domestic world: his family, nanny Dudu, and their close friends. Later his camera snapped the elegant and pretty women walking on the Promenade Auteuil or the Avenue de Bois in Paris. The love of elegance was established early; as he matured, his photographs of women became more intimate. His subjects were those whom he loved sensually and with whom he shared his life: Bibi (his first wife), Renée Perle and later still the darkly beautiful Florette – all women whose eyes signal mischief and allure. His father had been a successful financier, and Lartigue was able to indulge his passion for photography. He never had to earn a living, and his life, if anything, became his art. Time and again his camera recorded with verve and vitality the world around him, the moments when beauty coalesced with the sheer joy of life.

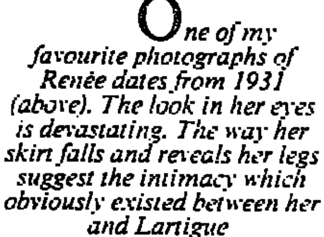
Next month Lartigue will be 90, and he is still taking pictures. To celebrate the occasion, the Olympus Gallery in London is showing 50 of his photographs of women. The earliest dates from 1902, the latest from 1975. *The Times* asked **David Bailey**, a great friend of Lartigue's to select his personal favourites.



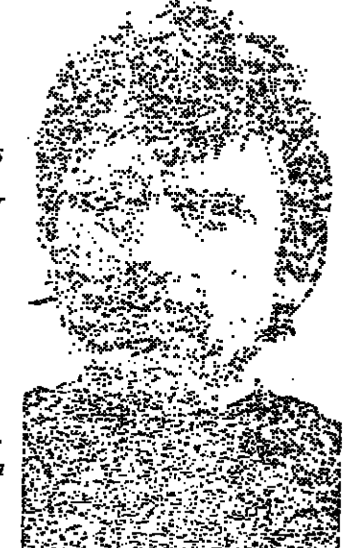
In 1945 he married Florette Ormea. She is the great love of his life and they are still together. She is an amazing woman, instantly recognizable by her long, dark, fingernails. She has a wonderful, timeless beauty. The photograph of her used on the front of the exhibition catalogue is one of my favourites







One of my favourite photographs of Renée dates from 1931 (above). The look in her eyes is devastating. The way her skirt falls and reveals her legs suggest the intimacy which obviously existed between her and Lartigue



The two great passions of Lartigue's world are cars and women. In the photograph from Aix-les-Bains, 1931 (above, right) he brings the two together with a snap which is so impressionistic. It is Renée again, here she clings to the windscreen of the car, full of animation and the joy of life

Only a Frenchman could take such adoring photographs

"I first saw Lartigue's pictures in the 1960s, the time Richard Avedon was putting him on the map. At first I could hardly believe that he was still alive. Since then we have become good friends. Like his photographs, he is instantly likeable. A man without pretention who, in his photography, has perfected the snapshot in a way that somehow transcends the snap. There is a magic in his photographs which is difficult to pin down and this is, I believe, true of all great photography, never more so than in his pictures of women. He was never really a professional photographer but moulded more on the nineteenth century tradition of taking pictures for fun. Count Primoli was a similar sort of photographer – he too was an amateur. The word 'amateur' should not detract from Lartigue's achievement. I'm referring to the *attitude* of an amateur rather than the quality of the end product.

"Of course he has had a charmed life. Not many people could afford to be an amateur photographer at the time Lartigue started. His pictures record the privileged world into which he was born and in which he has always lived. But the privileges he has had do not lessen the quality or importance of his pictures. They are a social document of the French middle-classes, with a Proustian feel to them – something fleeting and reflective.

"Such adoring photographs of women could not have been taken by anyone other than a Frenchman. I can't tell you how much Lartigue loves women. Recently I did some pictures of him with the model Jerry Hall, and all the time they were together he was flirting with her as though he were an 18-year-old.

"As he matured you can follow the development of his sexuality in his work and in the way he looked at women. The way he looked at women became more sensuous. I know that he has compared women to cakes, or patisserie, I think it is. I think in the catalogue to the show it says something like however little one may be hungry, they (women) are delicious to look at. But I don't accept the accusation that he treats women as objects. I suppose all photographers do, to a certain extent, turn their subject matter into objects but in Lartigue's work there is so much love and humanity, nothing at all spiteful.

"He was never a technician but that doesn't matter. The strength of his photographs is that they form a visual diary, a diary which traces the beauty of fashionable women enjoying life."

David Bailey

moreover . . . Miles Kington

Guides are now being published to answer the age-old question: Where can we take babies and young families to stay? The trouble is, this is a question I shall probably not be asking again in my lifetime. There is, however, no guide to the question I ask all the time: Where can one take a demanding girl friend or temperamental mistress without running into trouble?

Despairing of ever finding a publication which will help me, and thousands of fellow sufferers, I have begun to compile data for a Moreover Guide on the subject. Here is my report on a recent weekend.

The Royal Crescent Hotel, Bath, is one of the grandest hotels in the country. Too expensive for me, I'm afraid, so we found ourselves on Friday evening at the Coventry Patmore Hotel in the Midlands, a decent three-star place on the edge of town.

We had to change our bedroom twice, once because of traffic noise, once because it was too quiet, but those of you who have to travel a lot with girl friends will know this is par for the course. When the hotel had run out of rooms to show us, we settled down, me to unpack, she to strew the room with those old tights, make-up containers, wet towels, rejected clothing, combs and various other things which are inseparable from the business of bringing up a girl friend.

Before dinner she asked me to ring room service for an iron, needle and thread and a Bloody Mary. These arrived in tolerably good time, but not before she had discovered that the radio in the room was programmed to receive only Radio 1, Radio 2 and a local station specializing in Midlands traffic jams. She flew into a temper and screamed at the waiter to get her one that received Radio 3. Amazingly, the manager brought his own personal transistor set ten minutes later – full marks there.

During dinner she was in good enough heart to chat about the people dining at other tables. Unfortunately, her voice carries well and the acoustics of the room were good, so that several diners left hurriedly; one gentleman even came over and offered to remove my head if I didn't remove her. Is it not possible for bigger hotels to provide a separate dining area where one can take a girl friend, especially of the indiscreet variety?

After dinner we found that the chambermaid who had turned down the bed had left all my girl friend's belongings lying exactly where they were. Excellent: there is nothing they hate more than having things put away. But more trouble followed when she found I had forgotten to bring her reading book in the car. Would it not be possible for hotels to have a large library to cover this sort of eventuality?

We were not speaking by now, so we went to sleep. The big double bed was roomy and soft, and I too was comfortable on the floor with an eiderdown and blanket, though I sometimes think it would be a good idea to provide extra beds for this sort of eventuality. In the morning, too, I felt the lack of an extra bathroom, as she locked herself in the only one we had. When she came out, just in time to miss breakfast, she burst into tears because none of the ten skirts she had brought seemed right for the weather.

Is it really beyond the wit of modern hotels to have large spare wardrobe of ladies' clothes to lend to guests in trouble? Obviously, by now, the Coventry Patmore was not geared up to accommodating groups like ours.

The lift was either out of action or permanently occupied by American tourists, so we had to walk down all the 19 steps that separated the first floor from the ground. Understandably she felt faint from the exertion, and had to collapse in the lobby; I was amazed to learn that there was not a single doctor or nurse in attendance at the hotel, and wondered how the Coventry Patmore had ever earned its three stars.

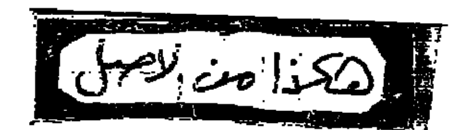
She now said she wished to return to London immediately.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 351)

ACROSS
1 Protective screen (6)
5 Pleasure in torture (6)
8 Decay (3)
9 Foot cushion (6)
10 Bestow (6)
11 Old English assize (4)
12 Initiative taker (2,6)
14 Sneaky watcher (6)
17 CH_3 compound (6)
19 First year student (8)
22 Food bowl (4)
24 Club social (6)
25 Assert (6)
26 Toolset (3)
27 Mail receptacle (2,4)
28 Printing mistakes (6)

DOWN
2 Truant (5)
3 Firmly impose (7)
4 Flour sprinkler (7)
5 Goad (5)
6 Storehouse (5)
7 Doctor's office (7)
13 Day before (3)
15 Rower (7)
16 Exclamation of disgust (3)
17 Commission (7)
18 Young child (7)
20 Asian falcon (5)
21 Gloomy (5)
23 Vision (5)

SOLUTION TO No 350
ACROSS: 8 Confectionery 9 Low 10 Garibaldi 11 Dryer 13 Screwed 16 Achieve 19 Inure 22 Scrapheap 24 Kid 25 Tastelessness
DOWN: 1 Scaled 2 Anyway 3 Kedgeree 4 Stores 5 Boob 6 Mellow 7 Myriad 12 Roc 14 Reimpose 15 Err 16 Assets 17 Harass 18 Eyelet 20 Upkeep 21 Eldest 23 Peel



FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Help at a stroke



In the five years since Dr Gerald Parsons-Smith retired as senior neurologist at Charing Cross Hospital in West London he has not been idle, but has waged a campaign to improve treatment for the 75,000 people who now die from a stroke evey year, and the 10,000 who occupy NHS beds. Now he has written to Sir Geoffrey Howe, his MP, asking for support.

Dr Parsons-Smith believes, and is getting prestigious support, that the outcome of a stroke will only improve when doctors and the public realize that immediate treatment will save lives and reduce residual disabililty in those who survive.

A stroke, in his opinion, needs to be treated with the same urgency as a coronary. He is appalled at the view that patients should be given home nursing care only for 24 hours before a decision is made as to whether or not hospital admission is needed. And he is critical of hospitals which, when a patient has been admitted, carry out expensive investigations before instigating treatment, thereby allowing irreversible brain damage to occur.

Dr Parsons-Smith would like patients to have first-aid treatment from their general practitioner within the first five hours; during this time, he says, an injection of dexamethasone can prevent the dangerous swelling, oedema, occuring in the stroke damaged area. The oedematous area acts as a mass which, by exerting pressure, destroys neighbouring tissue, possibly with fatal results. Further measures to maintain the patient's biochemical balance, temperature and blood pressure should be supervised in hospitals.

As well as quoting from his own experience at Charing Cross, Dr Parsons-Smith has another trump card. In 1952, when a neurologist to an eye hospital, he instigated immediate steriod therapy for patients with giant cell arteritis, a disease affecting arteries leading to the eye and brain which, if untreated, causes blindness in a similar way to a stroke. His work showed blindness was preventable; this treatment is now universally accepted.

In favour of caffeine



Medical students are taught that the addition of caffeine to the formula for analgesic tablets is unnecessary as there is no scientific evidence that it enhances the pain-dulling effects of aspirin, paracetamol or any of the other analgesics to which it is often added in commercial preparations.

Once the student leaves hospital and starts in general practice, he will soon find that patients have different ideas from pharmacology lecturers and that, freed from the discipline of the hospital ward, are prepared to express them forcibly. Patients' preference for analgesics with caffeine is supported by the recent work of Dr Eugene Laska in New York, quoted in a recent Medical News.

The doctor studied 30 unpublished reports. Considered individually only six showed a statistically significant improvement in the potency of the analgesic when caffeine was added. But when the results were pooled, there was clear evidence that a caffeine-containing pill is more effective. The New York doctors estimate that without the caffeine, a 40 per cent larger dose of the analgesic may be needed.

It now seems that the patient's habit of swallowing aspirin with the aid of a cup of coffee may be medically sound.

Missing voice of the SDP

The Conservative Party should be grateful to the Coxsachie virus, for it is probably this organism which prevented Roy Jenkins, who has campaigned in every bye-election since the foundation of the SDP, from electioneering in South West Surrey, where Mrs Bottomley's majority was well down on her predecessor.



Jenkins: unwell

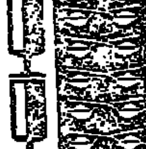
Mr Jenkins is suffering from subacute granulomatous thyroiditis; an inflammation of the thyroid gland in the neck. Although there is as yet no evidence that it is also so in his case, it is usually carsed by the Coxsachie, or less often, mumps virus. The gland becomes inflamed, tender, and sometimes so swollen that pressure symptoms can affect the voice. Mr Jenkins had been feeling unwell, "really rotten" according to an SDP spokeswomen, for some weeks, but it was the loss of his voice which finally forced him to retire to his house at East Hendred in Oxfordshire.

Subacute granulomatous thyroiditis has a good prognosis, despite the unpleasantness of the initial symptoms, and eventual complete recovery is the rule. Mr Jenkins said he hopes to be back on the hustings in time for the latter part of the European parliamentry elections. He has been content to leave diagnosis and treatment entirely to his doctors, but is pleased they assured him that he will eventually feel better than he has done for a long while.

Aspirin is the treatment of choice, but if the hyperactivity of the thyroid in the acute stage produces disturbing physical signs of physchological symptoms, steroids may be necessary.

There are two other types of thryroiditis, Hashimotos, an autoimmune disease, and Reidels woody thryoiditis. These do not produce the same degree of acute symptoms, but spontaneous recovery does not occur. Patients with Hashimotos need additional thryoid for life; those with Reidels may well have to have surgery to relieve pressure symptoms.

Gallstones warning



If a saloon bar regular develops gallstones, he should blame the tonic in the gin and tonic, or the cola in the rum and Coke. Recent research from Adelaide, reported in the *British Medical Journal*, shows that heavy sugar intake increases the chance of developing gallstones, but that alcohol reduces it. The fact that men drink more alcohol than women may partly explain why they are less troubled by these stones.

Pets pest

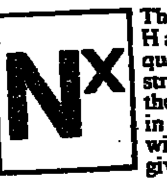


Honeybun the rabbit, having escaped the stewpot, is safe in Norfolk, the embassy dog has exchanged a diplomatic life for a regal one, the pigeons have been left to fly around Tripoli. But however much the ex-ambassador's family may miss their pets, they can console themselves that they are spared the hazard of catching yersiniosis, a form of acute gastroenteritis spread by many animals and birds.

Although the organism yersinia has only recently been described, a leading article in this weeks *Update*, based on a World Health Organization report, suggests that it only ranks after salmonella and campylonacter as a cause of severe gastroenteritis.

Patients usually recover without antibiotics, but if the attack is very severe or prolonged, or if the diarrhoea is accompanied by complications such as skin trouble or arthritis, the organism is sensitive to oxytetracycline, or co-trimoxazole (Septrin or Bactrim).

Quads odds



The birth of the Hammersmith quads has demonstrated that some of the techniques used in modern surgery will occasionally give rise to multiple births with small babies. These babies now have a better chance of survival than they did 30 years ago. Statistics from Melbourne show that babies whose birth weight is between 500 and 1,500 grammes now have a 69 per cent chance of survival as opposed to 50 per cent in the 1950s. Eighteen per cent of these babies later show signs of severe handicap

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Paul Nathanson takes a peep at the little people and meets the woman leading their revival

Gnome-man's land



Silence while they work: Ann Atkin with some of her red-capped friends on the gnome nature reserve in Devon. She sees them not as models, but symbols of age and innocence

Gnomes are still in Chelsea – at this week's Flower Show that is – after last year's brouhaha when the Gnome Manufacturers Association (Gnoma) clashed with the Royal Horticultural Society . . . and lost.

"They just wouldn't fit in", said an RHA lady firmly, but the gnomes have other venue: the second National Gnome Week was held earlier this month, Longleat hosts the International Ideal Gnome Exhibition on May 27 and 28, and the Liverpool Garden Festival was welcomed gnomes.

The woman behind the great gnome revival takes a considered view of the controversy. "I'm not a member of Gnome Manufactures Association says Ann Atkin, "so the Chelsea Flower Show isn't my battle, but I do think gnomes should be admitted as they're part of nature and gardens."

Its 1,500 inhabitants attract 25,000 visitors a year, the Gnome Club has an international membership of 1,000 and there is a thriving magazine, *Gnome News*.

In her quiet voice, much punctuated with laughter and waving hands, she explains that the idea of gnomes come to her rather suddenly.

She was painting a landscape when it struck her that gnome were an essential part of nature. "Not as models, but as symbols of something as old as the hills and as young as a child."

The gnome reserve is down a winding Devonshire lane, thick with primroses, periwinkle and the smell of cow dung from a local farm. A stream runs through the woodland; rooks caw, lambs bleat and cows moo but gnomes go about their work in silence.

Fishing, sheltering in the mossy trunks of massive beach trees, gardening, riding snails or swings – there's even one busily brushing a frog's teeth. There is also a mine, a bus stop, a level-crossing and sign showing a speed limit of 3 mph.

Gnomes of every colour and size, who all seem very merry, particularly the one with a flagon marked "scrumpy".

"We've tried to reform him", sighs Ann, "but there's nothing we can do about it."

On arrival at the reserve, 98 per cent of the visitors – who include professors, doctors, accountants, miners and car workers as well as adult teddy bear societies – accept a floppy red gnome's hat from Ann. Occasionally poitical visitors insist on having blue hats, and teddy bear enthusiasts put one on their teddy bears as well.

She insists that the fun element in gnomes is one of the most important, and people who delve too deep make her distinctly uncomfortable, but she does say: "Adults see trees and grass with their eyes shut. Put on a gnome's hat and they see things through the eyes of a gnome – more sharply, they look more closely and notice things.

"Wearing the hats also somehow breaks down barriers of time and age and the generation gap as they all become gnomes together – parents, grandparents and kids.

"Gnomes awaken part of us which doesn't grow up but which we submerge: the child in us which is very fresh and full of affirmation."

If this all sounds like a piece of vintage loony nonsense, Ann recalls the man who said that he lost 50 years when wearing a gnome's hat and was able to see things as if he were a child again.

Ann lives in an apricot-coloured former rectory with her artist husband Ron and their two sons and devotes herself to making and painting small pottery pixies. Pixies, of course are young and can be of both sexes, while gnomes are always white-bearded men.

Apart from selling pixies and gnomes – from about £1 to nearly £40 for one three feet tall – Ann recently opened a pixie nature trail.

It's more expressly educational than the gnome reserve with the pixies sharing two acres of meadow with beautifully painted cut-outs of badgers, otters, foxes, owls, buzzards and cuckoos, which actually live there.

There are also signposts to newly planted trees like quince, sycamore, yew and chestnut.

"Hopefully the children will identify with the pixies and the nature trail will give them a feeling for nature," says Ann who has always been a keen naturalist and ornothologist. "Many of the kids who visit come from towns."

FIRST PERSON

A dangerous lesson

As a psychologist specializing in addictions, and a single parent supporting and bringing up four children, my distress can be imagined when two weeks after my sons joined the local sixth form college I found one of them openly and happily sitting in his bedroom with a chum smoking cannabis. I have mixed feelings about cannabis smoking, but am aware that the peddlers of soft drugs are frequently the peddlers of harder drugs. In any case, what most appalled me was the fact that within two weeks my rather naive boy had been approached and was immediately drawn into trying it. He told me that it was possible to buy any drugs at the college, and most people were taking something, if not simply smoking cannabis. My second son announced cheerfully, that at breaks you could smell cannabis seeping out from underneath the commonroom door, and when asked if the lecturers and tutors knew about it, they said that they must; the smell was everywhere.

The following week I saw the vice principal, who said that they didn't have any drugs policy at the college, but if a boy was caught with drugs they might have to suspend him, and admitted that there were drugs on the premises, but asked hat on earth could be done about it? I suggested the first thing was to stipulate that drugs were not allowed on the premises and that students in possession, would be dealt with by suspension and parents informed.

This was done, but I was further shocked when I met the college counsellor and discussed with her the problems of drug use within the college. Her laisser-faire attitude was such that I wondered if she were well. "It's for the students to decide what they want to do. It's impossible to monitor their behaviour when what we want is their trust. . . . How do you stop them smoking cannabis in college?" she asked me.

"They have to be in charge of their own behaviour, they are not children. We cannot tell them what to do. They are students now. . . . We can't make the rules here, it's not school." I pointed out that college is a preparation for work and life. Both have constraints, and it seems logical that colleges should also have some. I added that drug taking was against the law and the college ran the risk of the police's wrath if too many students were caught with drugs. And I told her that the students were not just taking cannabis – but she was not at all surprised and asked me, if my children brought home friends who had drugs. "I wouldn't throw them out would I?" Being a reasonable person, a psychologist and mother, in no uncertain terms I told her just what I would do and that would include telephoning parents.

She appeared shocked. Both my sons seem to be very sensible about drugs, alcohol and smoking and are more motivated towards sport and part-time jobs, along with their college work – thank God, but they are constantly coming home with tales of students who have overdosed, who are on heroin, speed, (glue seems to be out of vogue) and many other drugs. They are sold openly in the common room, nothing has changed since the circular last January, and the college continues to turn a blind eye. The cannabis fug coming from under the doors of the common room remains and the college counsellor continues dishing out tea and sympathy in between doing her Phd on; *"Why girls choose to take Science Subjects"*. I Expect she will find they are driven by a need to support their habit, and running their own LSD factory is their prime target. I am sure the college will make the space available.

For me, however, the problem is more personal. I have struggled for years to give the children the most stable background I can. I see what an addictive society we are, (aspirin, tranquillizers, alcohol, tobacco, coffee, drugs etc) I have tried hard to bring my children up with the ability to look at problems and confront them rather than using avoidance tactics with drugs, but now I feel that the future is out of my hands and in the hands of those with more authority and less sense. I feel that I am no longer working hand in hand with the educators but I am to pitch myself against them in a lonely battle to teach my children the art of looking to themselves, and not to drugs for solutions.

Geraldine Reid

Always one for the fellows

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, which sends some hundred travelling fellows globe-trotting each year on exciting and exotic voyages of study, is entering a new era.

Sir Richard Vickers – whose last post was training the British Army in the build-up to the Falklands campaign – is the new director-general. Today this ex-commandant of Sandhurst and his assistant are jointly taking over from one remarkable woman. Anne Seagrim, acting director-general before Sir Richard arrived, is spending her last day as the Trust's administrator. At 70, she has been presented with her own, honorary travelling fellowship and a handsome sum raised by other fellows to send her around the world in their wake.

Anne Seagrim knows them all – from pastry cooks to ministers of religion – a fellowship of 1,775 men and women awarded travelling grants in the past 19 years. "Thirty-five have died, 21 withdrew", she says, taking an historical perspective back to a couple of days after Sir Winston's death when she set up the first Trust office in a basement at the English Speaking Union. In 1965 she was invited to hold the reins. Since then she has watched the £3m donated grow to £6.5m, with fellows comsuming the interest.

The administrator calls them "my heroes", as she relates amazing geographical searches with admiring relish. Among the 1984 vintage is a Cambridge undergraduate exploring back lanes in China on a bike. An artist of 26 trekking along the silk trade route from Iran via Pakistan and Afghanistan to China (sending back cards en route), while Brian Thompson is escaping from being a National Coal Board clerical officer to pursue his passion in the United States: the promotion of trial motorbike riding.



Anne: world tour

Their average age on receiving an award is 35 to 36, but the span is from a girl skater of 14 to a mature member of the Townswomen's Guilds sent, at 68, to Australia where she discovered the ins and outs of a social security system. Fellows are dispatched with efficiency on world travels, after being selected from application list 3,000 long each year by council members (currently the 21 include Lady Soames and Sir Peter Scott) and by Trust staff. The changes will be modernizing and computerizing the office to back-up the growing band of fellows. "Their number will increase until the twenty-first century", says Sir Richard, totting up lifespans.

Ann Hills

The Churchill Memorial Trust is at 15 Queensgate Terrace, London SW7 5PR.

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tographs

THE ARTS

Television

Return of certainty

The first instalment of Channel 4's American Caesar – there will be 10 in all – went with the speed of an express train. Based on William Manchester's book, it tells the story of General Douglas MacArthur, whose good opinion of himself was second to none. He [illegible] his ultimate defeat at the hands of the Missouri draper, Harry S. Truman.

This programme was concerned with an earlier disaster, the Japanese conquest of the Philippines. MacArthur, who six years earlier had been demoted from being the US Chief of Staff – we were not told why – had taken the rank of Field Marshal, a title the US Army did not afford, in the Filipino Army. The US recalled him to the fold to do his best.

He had the impression that help would be coming from home but America and Britain having agreed that Europe came first, his hopes, though well founded [illegible] messages from Washington, which he regarded as his real enemy, were vain. It was his [illegible] cousin, Mr Manchester [illegible], who persuaded Roosevelt to rescue MacArthur, his wife and three-year-old son from Corregidor, where he was holed up, and fly him to Australia.

He left, making his "I shall return" speech. It fell to the film director John Huston to speak the general's words in this programme. Mr Huston has a taste for verbal mastication and, as the general's words were never less than resounding, he had rather a good time.

Mr Manchester's view, and it seems unchallengeable, is that MacArthur was "a thundering paradox". He was noble, ignoble; generous, mean; brave, cowardly. The last adjective reflected the view of American troops bottled up in Bataan who thought him to be skulking below ground in Corregidor and referred to him as "Dug-out Doug". It was far from the truth. MacArthur courted danger and always emerged into the open when the bombs were falling. He escaped under protest when Roosevelt ordered him to do so.

His arrogance is not contestable. His father, also a general, had conquered the Philippines for America and commanded them. He was relieved of his command for arrogant behaviour and there is no doubt that his son Douglas was a chip off the old block. Still, as someone in the programme remarked, "Who wants to be led into battle by a general with an inferiority complex?" I thought he had a point.

The programme suffers from the declamatory style favoured by some American documentary-makers and often urgently pressed upon us in cops-and-robbers films but, at 30 minutes, one can stand the pressure. I may return.

Dennis Hackett

● The first auditions to be held by the Young Concert Artists Trust will take place at the Royal Over-Seas League, St Andrews Hall from July 5 to 16. The trust has been formed to help young performers of outstanding promise by providing expert management and guidance and opportunities for public performance at the very beginnings of their careers. This year the scheme will be open to pianists, violinists, cellists, string quartets and singers; the instrumentalists must have been under 28 on January 1, and the singers under 32.

Cinema

American comedy in unimaginative mood

Mr Mum (PG)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

Where the Buffalo Roam (18)

ICA/Classic Chelsea

The Wizard of Oz (U)

Plaza

[illegible] his first day covering the [illegible] shooting of Where the Buffalo Roam, a haphazard American comedy of 1980 based on his own journalistic exploits, Hunter S. Thompson suggested the title be changed to The Damned Fun. No doubt Thompson was responding to the [illegible] tedium of the film-making process, especially as practised by a neophyte director, Art Linson, customarily a producer. Yet how eloquent and pertinent the revised title sounds in the light of recent American comedy. Woody Allen goes his sweet, tedious way; we [illegible] await Broadway Danny Rose, recently screened at Cannes, but where are his rivals and successors? The juvenile romps from the National Lampoon stable stomp briefly at the box office, but leave no lasting impression on the mind; their more sophisticated brethren invoke, or even remake, the past Hollywood glories of Ernst Lubitsch and Preston Sturges with [illegible] cautious imagination.

Such bleak thoughts are prompted not only by the belated British release of the Thompson film; we also have Mr Mum to consider, a medium-budget domestic farce [illegible] directed by Stan Dragoti, released last summer under the title Mr Mom; it grew into a runaway American hit, and the scriptwriter John Hughes (a National Lampoon graduate) has now ascended into Universal with a three-year contract as a writer-producer-director. Yet, mom or mum, we still have the same [illegible] maddening example of old wine in [illegible] bottle, with Michael Keaton as the unemployed executive buckling down to domestic chores and an amorous neighbour, while his spouse (Teri Garr) goes to work with an advertising agency and an amorous boss.

Hughes's script intermittently locates the farce in a contemporary climate of [illegible] hardship and sexual [illegible] and [illegible] human insights show [illegible] advance on George [illegible] venerable revue [illegible] Cards as Women [illegible] the domestic turmoil of I Love Lucy, washing machines and vacuum cleaners go on the rampage like demons; baby, unsupervised, gulps down chili [illegible] slumps, addle-brained, before [illegible] soap operas. A few [illegible] offer the warm [illegible] of [illegible] recognition, at [illegible] they [illegible] exhausted creativity [illegible] previously featured [illegible] through the [illegible] style that pays [illegible] Garr's nervous [illegible] photography [illegible] consistently disagreeable [illegible] comedies can have [illegible] under so much [illegible].

Where the Buffalo Roam has [illegible] its own jokes [illegible] to [illegible] Universal's shelf [illegible] American release in 1980 [illegible] distributor, Blue Dolphin, has secured [illegible] thank the film [illegible] British public. This monster [illegible] seems [illegible] older than its [illegible] style [illegible] Hunter S. Thompson, the film's inspiration and [illegible] returns [illegible] to the Nixon era [illegible] the bogus doctor ran amok in Rolling Stone magazine, writing [illegible] subjective pieces on American justice, sports and politics.

Thompson called his style "gonzo" journalism, and Art Linson's film at least gives his [illegible] some useful visual material. We see the journalist, or rather his [illegible] impersonator (Bill Murray) dressed for action in shorts, tropical shirts, sunglasses and – absurd remnant of sophistication – a cigarette holder. We trace the trail of chaos through hospitals, court rooms, hotels and the press plane used for the 1972 Presidential campaign. Throughout, Rolling Stone magazine is called Blast; there is no querying the identity of the President seen with Thompson chatting about the "doomed" in an airport men's room.

For all such intermittent amusements, Thompson's fictionalized trail proves frustrating to follow. There is no point belabouring Art Linson (co-producer of Car Wash and Melvin and Howard) for his lack of directorial finesse: elegance seems as appropriate here as gold leaf on a bus-stop. But one would welcome some cultural perspective in a film that conspicuously [illegible] resurrects yesterday's [illegible] Thompson [illegible] after all, conceived [illegible] style in deliberate [illegible] America's political climate [illegible] country, he [illegible] journalist [illegible]. But Linson and his writer John Kaye (previously teamed in Rafferty and the Gold Dust Twins and American Hot Wax) merely wallow without thought in period anarchy.

Hollywood, of course, has always peddled dreams. MGM's 1938 production The Wizard of Oz, briefly reissued to celebrate 60 years of company activity, offers the delights of a Technicolor land over the rainbow. [illegible] with a [illegible] cry of "There's no place like home". The dream might be [illegible] but it is a potent, enduring dream. It seems certain to survive the forthcoming Disney film Oz, where the fantasy creatures played by Bert Lahr, Ray Bolger and company will be conjured up through fiendish special effects.

Geoff Brown



A chance for [illegible] Michael Keaton [illegible]

Pennine Pleasures

Coliseum, Oldham

Mike Stott's new play has his signature all over it: a passionate and warm plea for liberation through sex, couched in earthy (though this time, sadly, rather limping) farce. Ollie, his central character, is a failed salesman of "electronics software", who improbably buys a remote and dead hotel, prophetically called The Ram, and, when his young staff exploit its commercial potential as a knocking-shop, finds it rejuvenating as well as profitable.

That near enough is the sum of it, and a wearisome first act has to be spent while Robert Whelan [illegible] against a desperate role [illegible] verbalizes [illegible] temptations [illegible] employees [illegible] sheepish and sexy [illegible] Mrs Schmidt [illegible] gardener [illegible] Frank Elliott and young Philip Childs [illegible] quiet [illegible] meaningless [illegible] times but comes into his own later, wandering up and down the stairs stark-naked ferrying sandwiches to his temporarily exhausted fellow-orgiasts.

Representing, as often in Mr Stott's plays, the anti-liberation brigade, are a journalist from a smutty Sunday rag (Colin Meredith), later stabbed, and Ollie's wife (Pat Rossiter), a cancer-ridden religious fanatic in a prawn-coloured suit and burgundy accessories who preaches that any malaise can be cured by prayer, and a shampoo-and-set and is eventually disposed of in a disturbingly unlamented suicide.

The rest of the cast double as a succession of unbelievable characters commuting between anonymous group sex and hearty breakfasts. Their mundaneness, and the impersonal orgies for that matter, make Stott's point: sex is, and must be, for everybody, not just the young and pretty. Even Colette is married to a man whose nightly sex is as monotonous as his nightly "toot-toot" when he arrives to drive her home.

There are some lovely laughs when things get going and this [illegible] kindness [illegible] are hard to resist [illegible] enemies [illegible] Pat Trueman's direction [illegible] unaware that the script needs a strong hand, not least with the blue pencil. Mr Stott has some great comedies in him to follow Funny Peculiar, but no one can expect uncorrected first drafts to travel very far.

Anthony Masters

Theatre

Serjeant Musgrave's Dance

Old Vic

Set text and modern classic though it may be, John Arden's play remains a white-hot piece of work, although the UBA-Triumph Apollo management cannot have forseen how precisely Arden's portrait of a strike-bound Victorian colliery town would coincide with today's news. Since its first appearance in 1959, the play has advanced towards us as if in a slow prophetic march, and perhaps it is only a matter of time before a group of sickened Army deserters quit the streets of Belfast and bring the war home to roost in some quiet English town.

I remember previous productions as austere events, aiming above all to drive the message home, bad policy with this author, whose plain statements are always apt to [illegible] [illegible] Perhaps in the light of past mistakes, Albert Finney's production concentrates rather on the play's digressions and the sheer theatrical variety. Its central argument comes over with undiminished force. At the same time there are accomplished displays of clog-dancing and part-song; bold transitions between horror and absurdity (as where the parson and constable turn up in dressing-gown and night-cap after the killing of Sparky).

The bar-room girls' habit of breaking into unmotivated skirt-dancing and modal folk song at the sight of a uniform remains as unplayable as ever, despite the gallant performance of Cathryn Harrison as a bleary-eyed Annie, and Eileen Atkins who crystallizes the stony Mrs Hitchcock by treating the audience as potential customers.

Best of all, the role of the Bargee – whom I remember as an enigmatic intruder – goes to Max Wall, who reveals it as structurally essential: a mocking sinister figure, hovering at Musgrave's side, permanently sabotaging his sense of high purpose from the opening scene where (in a passage of inspired clowning) he gets into a hopeless tangle with the [illegible] and directs the [illegible] scene with the sole purpose of getting a firm knot round the capstan. It says something for Mr Wall that, throughout all this, your main attention stays firmly anchored to the fate of the redcoats and their ominous mission.

Di Seymour has set the play in a mixed environment of temperance banners and Victorian backdrops (complete with token displays of falling snow), and solidly actual properties. Thus, toytown figures like Willoughby Goddard's [illegible] Mayor and Graham Crowden's parson (more a [illegible] prince of the church than a provincial cleric) can appear as dolls, while the strikers and their leader have an immediacy unbounded by period restrictions. The contrast between the wintry monochrome [illegible] world and the blood-red [illegible] remains as [illegible] powerful [illegible]

[illegible] Surtees's Attercliffe, previously too amiable an old man to hold his own in this impassioned company, now equals it as a voice of incorruptible human decency.

As for Mr Finney's Musgrave, it defines both the qualities and imperfections of the play as a character too big for the surrounding fable. Forever at attention, whether with his men, at prayer or lying in his bed racked with visions of the end of the world, he combines the voice of the parade ground with the diction of an evangelist, and fully transmits the sense of absolute personal authority that has led his party on its doomed mission.

Irving Wardle

Dance

Potential winner

Onegin

Coliseum

Tchaikovsky and Cranko brought the house down at the Coliseum on Wednesday. As I scurried away for my deadline, tumultuous applause filled the theatre in acknowledgement of the end of *Onegin*. Festival Ballet have got themselves a winner.

In time, I hope, they will find a cast that can do it justice. That has not happened yet, but luckily the ballet can make the dancers look good. The corps de ballet actually have little to do, but that little twice brings them a sure-fire, built-in burst of applause: for their runs across the stage at the end of the first scene, the women leaping beside their partners, and for the splendour of the ballroom scene that begins the last act.

The real interest of the ballet lies in its leading characters, and above all in the relationships that crackle between them. Tatiana holds the main focus, isolated on stage in a different mood (but all of them intense) at the end of each act. During the action, however, it is the way they respond to each other that matters more than individual histrionics.

I think that is one reason why I find Mary McKendry and Alexander Sombart disappointing as Tatiana and Onegin. Both perform very conscientiously and ably what is prescribed for them. McKendry's acting comes chiefly from facial expression, her gestures seeming without much conviction: Sombart has an impassive face, and gives no sense of aging by the last act, but moves his upper body pliantly enough even if his feet lack elegance.

All the same, neither of them lives the part, and their big emotional scenes might be polite small-talk for all the reaction they show to each other, both absorbed in themselves.

Much the best performance, in fact, in this cast was Mark Silver's as Lensky. True, there have been performances before now, even with the Stuttgart Ballet for whom the work was first made, when it seemed the production might be renamed after that character, but the discrepancy has not been so severe. Silver really does put passion into his dancing, and directs his solos at the other people around him, not just at the audience. Even the monologue before his fatal duel becomes an intense communing with himself rather than a display piece.

After him, Michael Pink's courteous solicitude as Gremin deserves respect, but that role, too, can make a deeper impression. Deborah Weiss makes Olga pleasantly gauche, but it is amazing how little you miss that character when the plot writes her off after Act II. Other casts are appearing, including the first Tatiana, Marcia Haydée, and anyway you should not miss the ballet itself.

John Percival

A grand clarity of manner

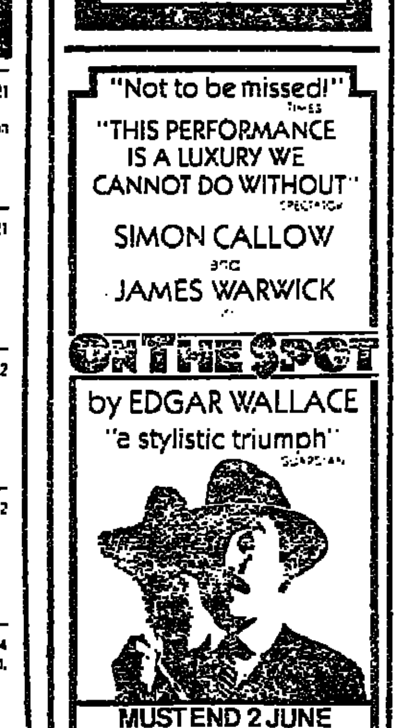
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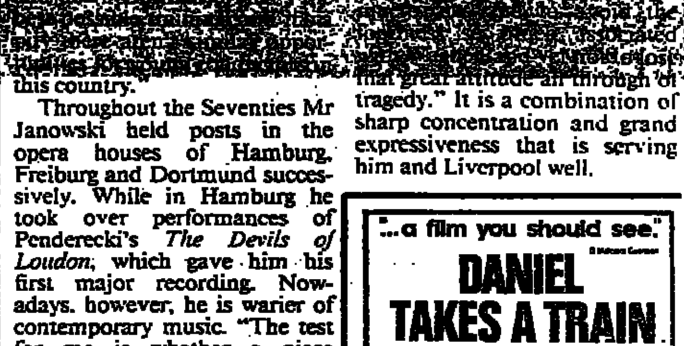
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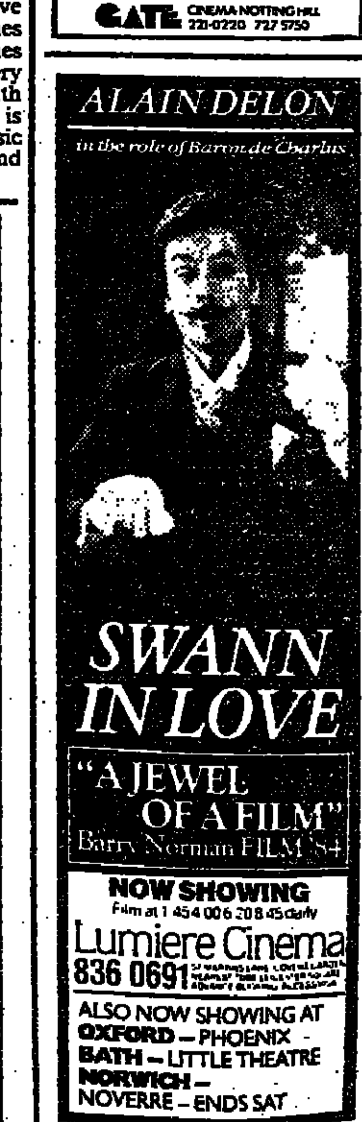
Throughout the Seventies Mr Janowski held posts in the opera houses of Hamburg, Freiburg and Dortmund successively. While in Hamburg he took over performances of Penderecki's *The Devils of Loudon*, which gave him his first major recording. Nowadays, however, he is warier of contemporary music. "The test for me is whether a piece becomes greater each time you do it or not. For instance, I have conducted *Tristan* 20 times now, and each time it becomes more marvellous. There is very little contemporary music with which that happens. There is very little contemporary music that makes you interested and not nervous."

[illegible] that great attitude all through of tragedy." It is a combination of sharp concentration and grand expressiveness that is serving him and Liverpool well.









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Taylor's farewell

Teddy Taylor, the unbending Tory MP for Southend East, has stepped down as vice-chairman of the Monday Club, to which he was drafted in two years ago as a "moderate" – a description that almost had him serving a writ for libel. Taylor assured me yesterday that he was not following the example of the club's former political adviser, John Pinninger, who resigned earlier this year alleging that the club harboured racists and extremists. "I shall remain an active member. I am just too busy. My job with the club has been done".

Taylor was appointed to the vice-chairmanship to clean up the club's anti-immigration reputation and to help prevent extremist members from gaining control. Although the club is said to be on a sounder footing, the chairman, David Storey, remains defensive. "Do you ever report any good news about us?" he asked. "How come *The Times* did not cover our admirable pamphlet on South Africa?" Asked who did, he paused. "Actually, no one in this country".

○ Eight miners from Abertillery have been dutifully following instructions from NUM headquarters and picketing the Writhlington colliery at Radstock, near Bath. Call them off, Arthur. Writhlington closed 11 years ago.

Orange-ustan?

Are the people of Northern Ireland suffering an identity crisis? Jim Kirkpatrick, an Official Unionist member of the Belfast Assembly, believes they are, and has suggested changing the name of the province in an attempt to repulse republican claims. He strongly opposes Six Counties, and, even more, Occupied Six Counties, a phrase frequently used by republicans. There's nothing wrong with Ulster, he says, and failing that – I announce his suggestion with trepidation – why not West Britain?

Only just intacta

I hope that Richard Branson's own flight record will not augur badly for the launch next month of his £99 London-New York Virgin airline. He tells me the only time he was at the controls was five years ago when a friend asked him to test a Pterodactyl – a basic aircraft of frame, motor and propeller. Branson intended only to speed along the runway, with a vital cord, designed to prevent take-off, between his teeth. But as he was about to cut the engine, he bit through the cord and up he went, plummeting to earth only by pulling wires out of the engine. He has never been in a cockpit since.

○ The timetable for North London Poly's second-year philosophy course could not have thrown up a more appropriate topic for the last lecture of the year, given yesterday: free speech. Unfortunately only Patrick Harrington, the National Front member, was there to hear it, with a police guard outside.

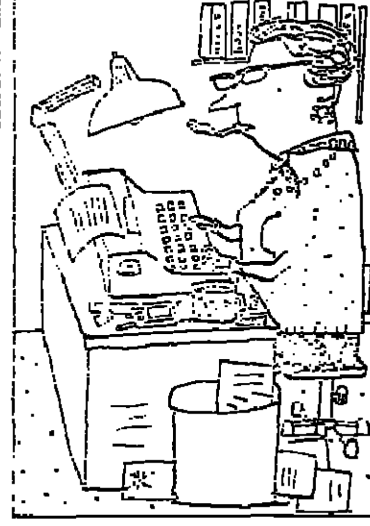
Pay dispute

Sarah Tisdall, jailed for six months for leaking details of cruise deployment to *The Guardian*, will have more than the Defence Ministry to answer when she is released from Holloway: *Guardian* journalists, who donated £10 each as "compensation" to her, are not amused by her decision to donate the £2,000 to Mencap. If they had wanted to give to charity, they would have done so directly.

Yardstick

British police are more likely to be found in the station canteen than plodding the beat, according to Professor John Van Maanen of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who has just spent nine months studying the Met. He tells me that of 250 officers based at one London police station, only 20 at a time will be on the beat. "Of course American officers don't have canteens," a Scotland Yard spokesman said yesterday.

BARRY FANTONI



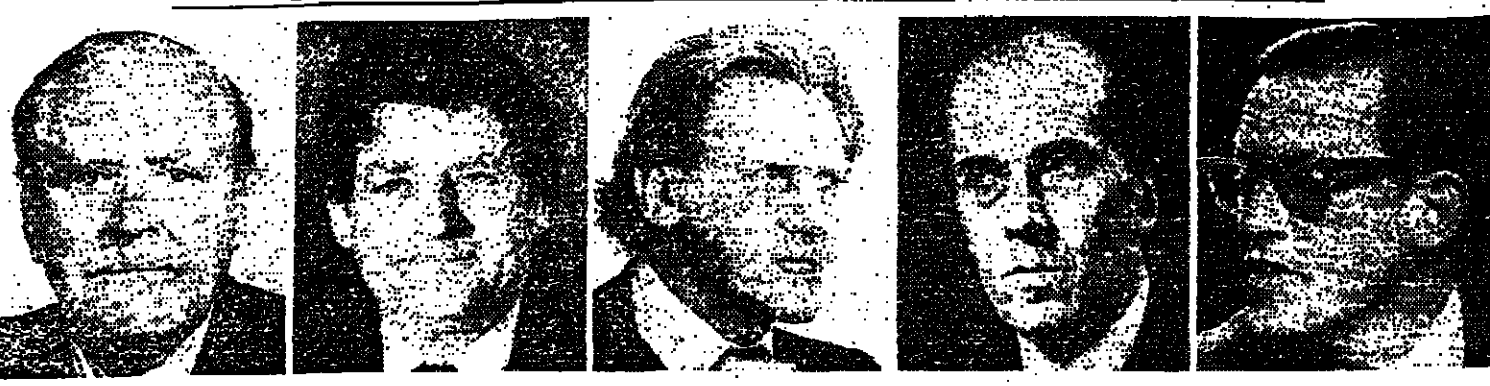
'Adam glared at Dinah. Their silence was like that of a meeting between the Coal Board and NUM...'

A la cart

In his latest stunt against the abolition of the GLC, Ken Livingstone rode to the Commons in a horse-drawn cart yesterday to present a petition of one million signatures to Neil Kinnock. "Just like the Chartists," says his sidekick. Weren't the Chartists deported?

PHS

What price justice? Julian Haviland on Lithgow v Whitehall



Havers, confident of victory. Four who denounced the terms in opposition: Lawson, Heseltine, Tebbit, King

Why every true Tory hopes Havers will lose

The Government seems hell-bent on making itself ridiculous, punishing its friends and imperilling one of its central objectives, the transfer of state-owned industry into private hands.

For several years it has been seeking to remove what many believe to be the only effective constitutional protection against the confiscation by a British Government of private assets. It now seems within sight of success.

It has been arguing in secret; so few people have noticed. But it is now to continue the argument in public, before the European Court of Human Rights; so the world at large will be able to enjoy the spectacle. Conservatives are more likely to weep.

Before the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg, the Government has been resisting claims for improved compensation brought against it by shareholders in certain shipbuilding and aircraft-building firms nationalized by the last Labour Government.

The claims are thought to total about £300m. To escape this bill, the Government has argued that the claims are outside the scope of the Convention on Human Rights, which provides that in taking over private assets governments must act according to the requirements of international law that compensation should be "adequate, prompt and effective."

From the start, ministers have had deep misgivings about the wisdom of this defence.

Whatever Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, maintains in law, his colleagues in government believe that justice lies with his opponents, the applicants to the court. The true opinion of every Cabinet minister whose words have been recorded is that the payments offered, and accepted *faute de mieux*, under the compensation terms set by Labour, amount to daylight robbery.

The saga known in Strasbourg as "the case of Lithgow and others" is not yet widely celebrated. But to detached observers, it seems to show government at its most wayward. To many solid Tories, it shows an inexplicable blindness by Mrs Thatcher and her colleagues to approaching danger.

"Lithgow and others" is a label for seven applications made to the European Commission of Human Rights by individuals and companies who claim they were not properly compensated for their interests taken into public ownership in 1977. English Electric and Vickers, who each owned half the shares in the British Aircraft Corporation, have the biggest claim. Other names include Yarrow and Vosper.

The applicants' complaint is that their recompense has been grossly inadequate, and their treatment in breach of rights of property guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights.

When Mrs Thatcher came to power, these aggrieved shareholders had some grounds for hoping that they would receive justice from Parliament. In opposition, the Conservatives had fought the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill with rare tenacity, for 18 months, through 58 sittings in Commons standing committee.

The Lords blocked the Bill until they were overriden under the Parliament Act. It inspired the Labour left, on a famous night, to sing the *Red Flag* in the Commons Chamber, after a victory by one vote, and Mr Michael Heseltine to seize the mace.

The Tories were against everything in the Bill, and stridently against the proposed method and scale of compensation. In committee, several promising young Tories spoke from the heart. A Mr Nigel Lawson said shareholders would get "grossly inadequate" recompense. A Mr Norman Tebbit said there could be "no equity" in the terms proposed. A Mr Tom King spoke of "outright confiscation".

Mr Heseltine, the senior Opposition spokesman, said: "The terms cannot be fair in any conceivable, reasonable, use of the word".

None of these senior Cabinet ministers has since recanted. None of them apparently wishes to put right what he then thought wrong and now has power to change.

The first proof that the Conservatives were to swallow their words and their principles came in August 1980, 15 months after their return to government. The Secretary of State for Industry, Sir Keith Joseph, in a written Commons answer, said that, to ministers' very great regret, nothing could be done to improve the compensation. Amending legislation would be unjust, to those who sold their shares on the terms offered.

The City found his argument absurd, and said so. Shareholders sell with their eyes open, and have no right to feel sore if later events fault their judgment. The market could operate on no other basis.

The suspicion was born that the intelligent and reasonable Sir Keith had surrendered to his department's officials - the same officials, no doubt, who had first devised the compensation terms to meet the Labour government's requirements.

Sir Keith's conscience drove him to add a telling admission. Many believed, he wrote, that the compensation terms imposed by the 1977 Act were grossly unfair to some companies, "and we share this view". To his pary this was an admission that he knew he was wrong.

To the disgruntled former shareholders, it was proof that redress could come only from Strasbourg. They applied to the Commission, which early last year declared their applications admissible, but has now given its opinion that there has been no breach of the convention or its protocols. A week ago the commission referred the cases to the court, where the arguments will be heard for the first time in public and settled, with luck, in 1985.

Sir Michael Havers is confident that he and the Government will win. But some alert Conservative backbenchers, and not a few ministers, have now begun to hope earnestly that he will lose. If the Attorney General does win, the Treasury will have to find a few hundred million pounds. The Chancellor may regret that the Governnment made no effort to use the Commission's good offices to negotiate a cheaper settlement; or he may be comforted by his inner conviction that the claimants will be entitled to every penny. But the thought that Sir Michael might be successful is beginning to freeze his party's blood. The cost, in both cash and political credit, might prove immeasurable.

If Sir Michael's argument is upheld, as expounded in his letter to *The Times* yesterday, that compensation in this case is outside the scope of the Convention, there will be no remedy left for any British shareholder whose assets are nationalized by a future Labour government with nil or nugatory compensation. The threat to withohold all compensation in future was specifically renewed by Labour only this week.

Ministers' defence of the 1977 Act's formula for assessing compensation, which in opposition they execrated, seems to their supporters equally rash. The assets of Vosper Thorneycroft, the naval shipbuilders, were valued at £37m at the date of nationalization. Yet compensation of only £5.3m was paid. Sir Michael is therefore asking the court to proclaim, it seems to his critics, that to pay for one seventh of the company's assets, and to pocket the rest gratis, is reasonable.

Beyond these shores, such a ruling by the court would encourage the plunder of British assets by foreign governments anywhere.

The Conservative Party is coming to the view that this would not be the happiest of precedents for Sir Michael to establish; a future Labour government would be pledged to take back the state assets of which the Government is now eagerly disposing.

Ministers hope to raise several hundred million pounds from the sale to the public of Enterprise Oil in the next few weeks; several billion from British Telecom in October; and as much as they can in due course from British Shipbuilders, British Airways and the State's other residual shareholdings.

Their success will depend on whether the public thinks it is being asked to make an investment or to play roulette.

David Watt

The importance of being harnessed

When I wrote here last week about the political detachment produced by a stay in hospital, a friend commented: "But you're always detached."

The undercurrent of reproach in this remark carried my mind back nearly 25 years to a conversation with Anthony Crosland. I had just started in political journalism after a period as a theatre critic, and Crosland, was extremely friendly and encouraging. It wasn't long, however, before we were engaged in a fierce altercation about an article of mine in which it appeared that I, who had accepted the Crosland version on two or three recent issues, was now rejecting it on this latest question, in favour of a line that was not only un-Crosland-like but positively Conservative. I can still see Tony towering over me and shouting: "You'll never influence anyone unless you join up."

My immediate reaction was to take refuge from this formidable onslaught in a young man's fever of moral indignation. How dare this political hack dictate his seedy partisan compromises to me? Was it not my vocation to seek truth without fear or favour?

At the time these qestions seemed to me unanswerable, and yet the more I saw of political life and the way that political opinion in this country is formed, the more I found that Crosland was stating an important truth and one which has been a challenge to my political aloofness ever since.

Its force is that it is based on two simple facts of human nature: people are more willing to listen to their friends than to anyone else and people distrust unlabelled products.

All politics – and indeed every process of persuasion – is deeply influenced by these axions and in the British political tradition they have been elevated to the level of high principle.

Our institutions are mainly eighteenth and nineteenth constructions, founded on the existence of a political class (drawn from a small range of families and professions, schools and universities) which could be relied upon for predictability. If you knew who a man was, you could make a very fair preliminary guess as to what his political opinions would be; and once you had confirmed these by personal contact you would be pretty sure that if they changed subsequently it would be by slow and well-signalled degrees.

Those who acted otherwise were liable to be tagged with a damaging label of flightiness and irresponsibility. The Chief Whip in one of the Palliser novels, arguing against giving the politically fastidious Phineas Finn a government post, summed it up in a characteristic hunting metaphor when he said, "These Irishmen won't run straight." Only the transcendent force and genius of Gladstone enabled him to overcome the bitter charges of unreliability which flowed from the many tergiversations of his long career.

Of course, the atmosphere of British politics has been transformed, but far more of it remains here than in say, France, Germany or the United States. Not only do practical British politicians continue to cry: "Damn your principles, stick to your party", the British voter apparently still tends to dislike politicians and parties without a settled, easily identifiable position. The maverick MP who attempts to turn independent may last one election on his personality, but rarely more. I suspect that at least half of the difficulty experienced by the SDP comes from an obscure feeling, even among people who profess to admire independence of mind, that a group of politicians who put their principles above party and have no obvious "interest" cannot be wholly serious.

If this is still the prevailing political culture of the country, how can a political journalist make any real impact? Is he not bound, as Crosland implied, to tie a label round his own neck? If he does so, and is identified, say, as a "Conservative" commentator, he may be largely ignored by anyone except Conservatives, but he will be able to influence an important half of the political spectrum, he will be admitted to the genuine confidence of Conservative politicians, and he will be allowed a good deal of judicious heterodoxy and independence within the Conservative camp.

On the other hand, if he opts for a wider independence and the luxury of choosing without an easily recognizable rationale between the policies and opinions of the various parties, and of praising and criticizing politicians without any detectable bias, he will probably be distrusted and, if possible, brushed aside by all parties alike.

My own temperament, in spite of Crosland's warning, has taken me over many years along this latter track; and I am sure that I have, in the Crosland sense, been less "influential" upon the politicians than if I had backed a party or even an intellectual tendency, such as monetarism, which would have given me an affiliated identity.

I am also sure, as I was not at the time of my argument with Crosland, that there is no real comfort for me in any priggish consciousness of journalistic virtue. A reporter should try to report the facts, but beyond that, if his opinions are invited and if they fall into a clear pattern, and if that pattern happens to be socialist or Conservative, why should one be expected, as an honest man, to put them on the rack of a phoney impartiality? It will rapidly become apparent to the readers where the writer stands, and they can take it or leave it.

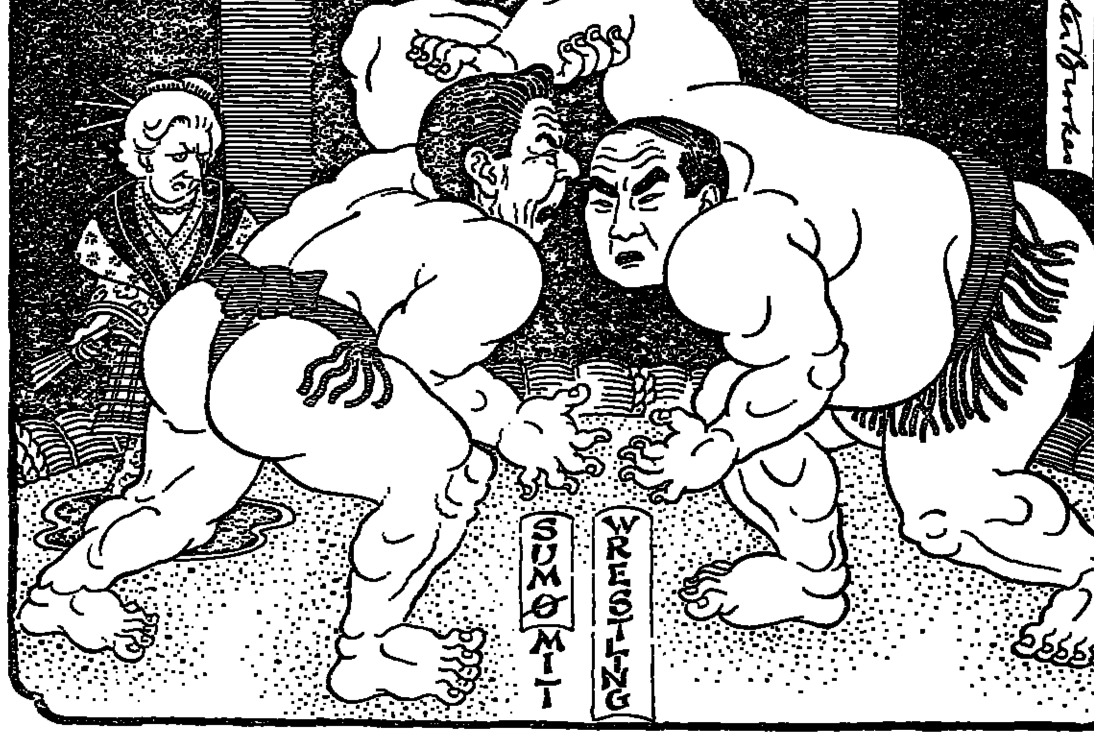
There is no good reply in principle to this argument and most of the practical weight is also on its side. On behalf of my own position I can only offer three arguments. First of all, in spite of the fashion for "commitment", the uncommitted voice has its own right to be heard.

Secondly, detachment is not necessarily the same as either indifference or intellectual opportunism. The permanent concern and internal consistencies of any but the most trivial cross-bench mind will become apparent in time.

Thirdly, detachment is the state of mind of the majority of the British public towards politics. Politicians want loyalty but the ordinary reader may occasionally want to hear from someone more like himself.

These defences, now that I see them on paper, do not look impregnable, but they are the best that I can honestly offer. And in any case, it is too late to change.

Sarah Hogg talks to the most important summiteer bar one



At last Japan has a heavyweight in the world lists

Tokyo

Asked by British journalists what he would discuss with Mrs Thatcher at their meeting in London next month, Japan's prime minister said he would ask for a transfer of the technology of iron statesmanship. He did not, I replied, seem noticeably in need of it.

This little exchange says quite a lot about Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone. He is quite out of the run of Japanese prime ministers – a considerable international personality. The bureaucrats who run his country have, it seems, still not quite got over the shock of discovering that he has a very clear idea of what Japan's place in the world should be, and is prepared to keep harrying them in pursuit of it. Hence the fundamental importance of the arid, and technical wrangle over financial liberalization. Mr Nakasone has been forcing the pace on this, not just under pressure from the Americans, but because it is part of the jigsaw forming a picture of an international state.

For 15 years Japan has been the second most powerful economy in the non-communist world. For good reasons and bad, it has still retained many of the anxieties and attitudes of a struggling developing country. The good reasons are its dependence on other people's food and other people's oil, which makes a massive trade surplus seem a comforting insurance rather than a handicap to its own citizens, who could be enjoying a higher standard of living, as well as to its trading partners. The bad reasons have been to do with lack of vision, a narrow view of international issues that produces action only in response to threats from its chief customers.

In some ways, this has worked to Japan's disadvantage. It has been bullied and nudged into tariff reduction and quota increases because it has a vulnerable trading economy which has not grown into the political power that should follow from its massive economic strength. Now it has a prime minister clearly determined to make Japan's mark on the international scene. But to do so, he has to take decisions that may be more difficult, domestically speaking, than adopting a do-nothing strategy which is shifted only by intolerable American pressure.

The forthcoming London economic summit will be Mr Nakasone's big opportunity to capitalize on his positive approach. I was talking to him yesterday, with four other economic journalists flown out to Tokyo by the Japanese government in order, it was quite clear, to conduct some of this new electric current into Europe. Six years ago, I went to Japan to interview Mr Takeo Fukuda – an occasion of such soporific blandness that one of his aides crashed, fast asleep, to the ground half way through. So I was sceptical – but I felt no desire at all to nod off while listening to the man who has began to realize that he could be the second most powerful in the free world.

Of course, old limitations remain to his freedom of international action, and they have been reinforced by some new problems that do not make for political popularity. Mr Nakasone is caught between American demands for a defence budget commensurate with Japan's status, and the old restriction that keeps defence spending within 1 per cent of national income. Soothing Japanese platitudes about the reconciliation of these two aims simply infuriate Nato governments, but it is noticeable that Mr Caspar Weinberger ended his discussions with the Japanese government in a remarkably sweet temper. He too seems to have been impressed by Mr Nakasone's intentions.

In trade negotiations, too, progress has accelerated. The accumulation of minuscule reductions in tariffs does begin to add up to worthwhile figures, though the beneficiaries appear to be the industries of Asia's "new Japans", not of old Europe. Japan is still instinctively anti-import, and has refused to accept the European proposal that is should set targets for the manufactured share of its total imports. But the financial measures are important, both for any modest impact they may have on the yen and for the opening up of Japan's massive service sector to a whisper of competition. Long-sighted Japanese can see something in it for themselves as well.

Fortunately, one huge domestic pressure is operating in the same direction. The Japanese government is in a state of anxiety about the size of its budget deficit – even the opposition party proposes only very modest changes to the policy of financial retrenchment. The Japanese save so much of their incomes that there is actually very little difficulty in financing the deficit in the short term, so the anxiety at first seems excessive. But there are two particular problems preying on the government's mind.

The first is that a lot of the government borrowing surge that began in the mid-1970s took the form of 10-year bonds which are beginning to fall due. There is a brighter side to this situation, however, because it is forcing the Japanese to free their own capital markets, to a modest extent, in order to ease refinancing problems.

The second problem is longer term. Japan has the social spending crisis common to all advanced developed countries – but to a much worse degree. Dramatic improvements in health have given it about the longest life expectancy in the world, together with an almost equally dramatic fall in the birth-rate. This means that Japan is changing from a young to an old society far faster than any other country with a comparable economy. The government is beginning to take hideously unpopular steps – such as restricting health insurance to only 90 per cent or even 80 per cent of the cost – in order to trim tomorrow's bills.

So Mr Nakasone does not have an easy hand to play. His difficulties are compounded by a slowdown in the trend of economic growth to "only" 3 to 4 per cent – far lower than its main Asian competitors. But with a standard of living way up to the best international standards, the stresses are hardly intolerable. Mr Nakasone, who faces reappointment by his party before the end of the year, does not seem to be seriously under threat from heirs-apparent or elder statesmen of the faction-ridden Liberal Democratic Party. But his international forays are not always popular at home.

So what can he hope to gain from the London summit? First, some reassurance of his oil supplies from those trading partners to whom he has just given import sweeteners. Second, by proposing a new round of trade talks, he to some extent turns the tables on the grumbling Europeans and gains American support. Third, by taking the position both of world peacemaker and conductor of developing world concerns, he makes a corner for himself in world politics which can be furnished with the tools of economic rather than military power: with, in particular, the leverage conferred by a strong programme of development assistance. Since that brings benefits to Japanese industries, it is a not unpopular domestic cause.

Philip Howard

Read British: your lit hit list

Patience, children. The time has nearly come for us to reveal the result of the poll to discover the Top Ten Greatest Dead European Authors of all time. Diligent readers with retentive memories will recall that *Lire* magazine, a sort of down market Frog *TLS*, has had the jolly wheeze of getting its readers, and those of *The Times*, *Die Zeit*, *La Stampa*, and *El Pais*, to vote for the Top Ten European authors. To be considered, the authors must be dead. They must be "creative", that is to say no philosophers or historians. For the purposes of the exercise, Irish authors count as British; anybody who writes in German counts as German; but Latin American writers in Spanish do not count as Spaniards. As to the meaning of "great", you were on your own. The five national organs will publish the results next week, with a roll of drums, just before the European elections. And after that nobody will be in any doubt about the greatest writers in Europe; so there.

The Times got into a certain amount of trouble for the "English irony" with which it approached the exercise, and for presenting it differently from the other four publications. They published a select list of 40 suggested runners for readers to choose from (space was left for anybody to write in other runners and dark horses of his or her own). But seriously, *Mon cher vieux Redacteur En Chef Adjoint*, if you suppose that My Masters are going to allow me to occupy the whole Feature Page of *The Times* with little boxes and pictures of Malaparte and Valle-Inclan, you take a more favourable view of our passion for diagrams than I do.

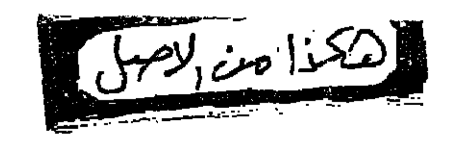
I merely invited readers of *The Times* to send in their lists of the Top Ten British, French, German, Italian, and Spanish writers. Because of a crossed telex line over the Channel, I erred and strayed in inviting you to list the British. Readers from each nation vote for writers from the other four, but not from their own. However, because of this misunderstanding, I have *The Times* poll of Top Ten British authors. It is of no use for the main European poll, the result of which we shall publish next week. But it may provide an interesting comparison with Spanish, Italian, German, and French perceptions of the best British writers. And, in any case, it enables me conveniently to break the embargo on publication date; correction: to act as John the Baptist for the main event.

No fewer than 167 readers sent in lists, causing me a certain amount of groaning and hair-tugging. In my experience, to invite readers to write to one is asking for trouble. But, considering the amount of work you had to do, and the pain and grief of thinking of 10 Spanish authors you had even heard of, let alone read, it was a large, creditable, and occasionally even sensible entry. Here are the results of the British jury on Britain:

1. William
2. Charles
3. Geoffrey
4. Jane
5. Milton
6. Pope
7. Equal: Keats and Wordsworth
9. Eliot (George, not Thomas Stearns), though he scored quite well
10. Donne

I note that Virginia Woolf, who was selected in the Top Forty as a British writer for the continentals to vote for, did not receive a single British vote. I note that the British list does not include a single twentieth-century writer, and suspect that Brits like their literature old. Wot no Johnson? If I had counted him and Boswell as one, they would have come near the Top Ten. Forty-eight writers not included in the continental racing card ran well: the 47 translators of the Authorized Version of the Bible, which must be the most influential work of English literature ever published; and P. G. Wodehouse.

You ask for any comments, dear old *Redacteur*. I think that the main one is that those who answer questionnaires in newspapers are not necessarily those whose literary or other judgments one would most respect. For example, neither Helen Gardner nor Kathleen Tillotson took the trouble to send in their lists. I am not surprised.





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A QUESTION OF CONFIDENCE

A five per cent rate of inflation halves your money in fourteen years. A four per cent rate sounds significantly lower but even that would involve prices rising by fifty times in 100 years. Neither the current rate of inflation, nor the Government's hopes for a reduction in the rate to perhaps three per cent by the end of this Parliament is sufficient to inspire full confidence in the currency. If a fifty-year-old worker, for instance, today deposits £1,000 in the bank for his retirement, he will find that it will be worth less than £500 when he retires in fifteen years. He would justifiably laugh at the idea that we are anywhere near price stability.

In his speech to the CBI on Wednesday the Chancellor repeated that price stability was to be the Government's long-term target, but not apparently in this Parliament. Ten years is too long to wait. If we have to wait for ten years for price stability we will all have lost a lot of the real value of our savings; and we will be justifiably jittery every time the market gets the jitters.

There are many technical factors which help to explain the volatility of the markets, illustrated again yesterday in the Stock Exchange with the slide in shares and gilts, and also in the value of sterling. But the underlying cause of volatility is an absence of confidence in the Government's capacity to apply economic policies which are based on sound and predictable money values. Having made the conquest of inflation its paramount priority in the last Parliament, this Government has now eased up; with predictable consequences to confidence in the currency. Perhaps the Prime Minister and the Cabinet no longer think that the attack on inflation is still the most important priority. In that case they are surely mistaken. They have been taken in by the fact that prices are rising now more slowly than they have been for nearly twenty years. Such complacency is dangerous, however, since by historical standards of price inflation a range of between three and five per cent is still very high. Inflation may be coming down but prices are not coming down. They are just rising more slowly.

So long as prices are rising citizens will have no real conviction in the currency. Without conviction in the currency there will be no full confidence in governments' ability to maintain a stable economic environment. People will probably accept the argument that external factors are largely contributing to this instability but it will merely confirm their own private suspicions that the Government's economic and monetary policies do not have firm enough foundations to withstand outside uncertainties. Consequently the citizens will inwardly maintain some inflationary expectations and adjust their individual economic decisions about saving and spending accordingly.

Obviously the main outside factor at work on the British markets is the uncertainty in the United States. The symptoms of that uncertainty are clear. Banks are threatened with collapse and the official budget deficit is now so large that the United States Administration is having difficulty in borrowing. But the underlying cause of that uncertainty is at root a question of confidence, or rather lack of confidence, in the competence of the American Administration's management of its economy. This is the consequence of the high deficit, leading to high interest rates, leading to the threat of international default, leading even to a threat to some American banks.

So at the heart of all the arguments and explanations about financial and monetary policies – borrowing and lending – lies a simple question of confidence. If it appears to investors that President Reagan's refusal to respond forcefully to the deficit this side of an election suggests that he will be incapable of a forceful response the other side of an election, the markets will rapidly lose confidence in his Administration, whether or not they still expect him to win the election.

Once financial confidence in a government starts to slide, everything slides. Ultimately the authority of a government is indivisible. It operates on the basis of confidence in too many fields for one to be able to pick and choose about the calibre of its base metal. If the nations of the world think that they have found out the United States Administration by exposing a fault at the heart of its foundation, they will know that the whole edifice of policies – financial, foreign, military – is flawed and, according to their allegiances, will draw sombre or excited conclusions.

ODD MAN IN

France is about the most unlikely promoter of a federal Europe that anyone could imagine. Ever since the inception of the European Community the French position has been practically synonymous with nationalism, whether in keeping Britain out, defending French farmers or insisting on the right of veto.

Yet here comes M Mitterrand as the new champion of European political union. Speaking in Strasbourg yesterday he endorsed the draft treaty produced earlier this year by the European Parliament which calls for phasing out of the right of veto over ten years, increasing the powers of the Parliament, and enabling the Community to raise its own revenues. He offered a vision of a united Europe entering the next century technologically capable of defying the challenges of the rest of the world, self-supporting in food, spreading its culture and exploring space. In a somewhat confusing flourish of rhetoric he said that "our role is to prepare for the inevitable, to achieve the improbable".

At the moment his vision looks more improbable than inevitable but that is not really the point. Europe cannot impose unity on itself by an act of will, even if the politicians profess to have the will. If European unity is to come it will come only from a natural convergence of interests, and if it does that there will be scarcely any need for the formal abolition of the right of veto. Moreover, even if the right of veto were abolished a nation which felt its vital interests threatened by a European vote would find ways of protecting itself.

In other words, formal treaties and blueprints will not do much for Europe as long as there are still unresolved conflicts of national interest. Is M Mitterrand really prepared to abandon the interests of the French farmers in the interests of European unity? If so, he could start now. He has no need to wait for a new treaty.

That he has got the cart before the horse is shown by his dismissal of the dispute over Britain's budgetary contributions as "petty quarrelling". It is indeed, when seen in relation to the large problems now facing Europe, but it is symptomatic of the unresolved national interests which still hold back the development of Europe, and M Mitterrand is in practice no less a staunch defender of these interests than is Mrs Thatcher. If they can be overcome by treaty they can be overcome without one.

However, it would be churlish to reject M Mitterrand's impulse altogether. If France is now more willing than in the past to make compromises in the interests of European unity this should be welcomed by other members, even if they disagree on detail. M Mitterrand is right that the European Community needs a new heave to get itself out of the rut of "petty quarrelling". It needs a new sense of purpose to enable it to grapple with the much larger problems now facing it, particularly in matters relating to defence. It is absurd that Europe should be as dependent as it is on American protection and American weapons.

But it is France that remains militarily detached from Nato, outside Nato's Eurogroup and a lukewarm member of the independent European Programme Group. M Mitterrand is doing something to compensate by re-activating Franco-German defence talks and promoting the idea of using the Western European Union as a forum in which to discuss defence, but that still falls far short of becoming a full member of Nato. The fact that this is still regarded as politically impossible in France only confirms that there is a fairly wide gap between M Mitterrand's words and his deeds.

HARD TACK IN AFGHANISTAN

Nothing was done to stop the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and very little is being done now to help the Afghan resistance. But surely the world can do something to avert the famine which now threatens that unfortunate land. Particularly at risk are the areas where Soviet forces have been most active, and in the North-East province of Badakhshan indications of impending starvation are already evident.

The scholarly report released yesterday by the Afghan Aid Committee is all the more convincing in that its primary aim is less to denounce the occupation than to assess accurately its effect on the delicately balanced economy of a poor and backward country; the purpose is to avert disaster, rather than merely ameliorate the consequences. The author, Dr Frances D'Souza, has researched actual and potential calamities in regions as diverse as Italy and Pakistan, and her work uses the latest methods of determining populations most at risk. She analyses data collected from public sources and from recent surveys conducted inside Afghanistan.

The difficulties of this work are immense in a country where statistics are so unreliable that population estimates vary from between ten and seventeen million. The author acknowledges these limitations and modifies her conclusions accordingly. Yet attention must be paid to a scientifically conducted survey of 5,000 children which classifies a high proportion of them as suffering from malnutrition. Interviews with farmers to determine trends in agricultural production and an examination of rising food prices and transport costs combine to give grave cause for concern. Famines can be averted only by immediate action to provide aid for those *Mujahidin* leaders capable of distributing it wisely.

Soviet propaganda about smiling soldiers building bridges and planting trees cannot allay suspicions that burning crops and destroying irrigation schemes are part of a strategy aimed at starving Afghans into submission. But even if there were no such malevolent intention, the effect of Moscow's actions is the same. The high salaries paid to officials of the Kabul regime and the concentration of food supplies in the Soviet garrison towns push up prices to such an extent that the poorer rural population is bound to suffer. Compulsory conscription – even though followed by massive desertion – deprives the fields of labour, and helicopter attacks on Afghan convoys disrupt the traditional trading routes between hungry villages and areas with a food surplus.

The areas between Kabul and the Soviet border have suffered badly in four years of fighting. Villages on the main routes have been destroyed by bombs or bulldozers to deprive the Mujahidin of their bases. The fertile plain south of Faizabad, for example, now produces fewer crops because it is repeatedly under fire from helicopter gunships. Pakistan is too far for most of the region's women and children to reach as refugees. It takes more than a month for grain to be brought to some villages by donkey along dangerous roads, making it too expensive for many families.

Some resistance leaders have realized the need to organize food production and distribution in the regions under their command in order to ensure a firm base for their operations. They are rebuilding irrigation channels and ensuring that trade and transport continue without prices inflating beyond the reach of the poorest families. But a careful balance must be maintained so that controlled prices do not discourage tradesmen from renewing their supplies.

There are now two economic systems: one is used to strengthen the hold of the invader, but the other is operated by the Mujahidin and should be helped in every way possible. Little can be done to lessen the dangers from drought which are always present. The flow of food from Pakistan can, however, be greatly increased. Volunteer organizations already exist which are prepared to transport supplies to the areas in greatest need. Grain and donkeys are less controversial than weapons, but they are just as vital in ensuring the survival of the Afghans.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Matters of fact at the North London Polytechnic

From the Director of the Polytechnic of North London

Sir, Regrettably, I find myself having to correct some of the impressions created by your leader of May 18 and by Roger Scruton's article last Monday about the Polytechnic of North London.

In your comments on staff you restrict yourself to allegations of political bias of a few staff members and ignore the high-quality work produced by the general body of the polytechnic's teachers whose commitment to their work in a wide range of subjects in science, technology, humanities, and business and professional studies has received warm praise from many quarters, including the CNAA (Council for National Academic Awards) and HM Inspectorate.

You also appear to be ill-informed about the academic standing of our courses. This is guaranteed both by validation from external bodies and by the employment of external examiners. Your columnist, Roger Scruton, omitted to mention that he has been external examiner for the philosophy course here for many years. Is this one of the "loose, intellectually sub-standard" courses to which you refer? He has made no such report to me as director and chairman of the academic board.

The CNAA clearly does not share these views – probably because the CNAA makes regular, careful and thorough inspections. It has never, as a result of one of these visits, withdrawn its approval from any of our courses, nor has it refused to renew approval for any course at this polytechnic. The critical HMI report referred to two degree courses in sociology and applied social studies, which have now been substantially changed.

Neither you nor Mr Scruton make the slightest attempt to draw a full picture of the current situation, which poses a stark dilemma for a civil libertarian, such as myself, who is committed to the ideal and practice of academic freedom.

You ask what sort of doctrine puts "'racism' unapproachably high on the list of moral failings" and yet you fail to mention that this polytechnic is a multi-ethnic teaching community – a fact which I cannot fail to take into account.

I most certainly do not, and will not, "condone" the obstructive tactics to which some students with extreme political views have resorted. I am, however, acutely aware of the polytechnic's obligations to the innocent majority of students who will be taking their end of year examinations in a very short time.

Far from doing our "utmost to avoid doing (our) duty" the polytechnic's directorate has been working round the clock, in constant consultations to resolve this matter according to law and in the best interests of all our students – including Mr Harrington.

Yours truly,
D. W. MacDOWALL, Director,
The Polytechnic of North London,
166-230 Holloway Road, N7.
May 24.

From Dr A. Rosen and others

Sir, Your intemperate leader of May 18 makes several facile judgments. It would seem that the writer has misunderstood a number of important factors and we shall attempt, as governors of the polytechnic, to explain our situation.

You castigate the polytechnic management for refusing "to punish breaches of that classroom discipline needed for teaching to take place". But your leader writer should know that there is a difference between teaching and learning and that classroom discipline, in your sense, is not the only nor even the most important prerequisite for learning.

As an establishment concerned with learning PNL must provide an environment in which ideas can be exchanged freely and in which there is mutual confidence between students, staff and management. In such a climate conflicts of ideas of course arise and are part of intellectual growth. Where fear is part of that climate development is inhibited and learning slows down.

As governors we are conscious that such fear has been introduced into the classroom because of a widespread belief in a connection between the National Front and recent local violence.

Those students who lobbied governors at their meeting were neither the unthinking supporters nor the committed band of revolutionaries of your leading article. They were thoughtful but very frightened young people worried by what could happen to any whose names and addresses were made public in court.

The problem with racism is that history has demonstrated that it tends to obliterate "all antecedent rights". Those who practise it believe so implicitly in their own system of values that it becomes possible to deny "a fair hearing ... civil rights of movement and speech" without even the virtue of "an emotional spasm". For those on whom it is practised racism has a profound effect on confidence; and it matters little whether the racism is expressed inside or outside a particular building.

You sneer at the students who, you say, put racism "unappropriately high on the list of moral failings". In a multiracial educational establishment in a multiracial community it must be highly rated, since it attacks the basis of confidence without which the educational experience is diminished.

How is the polytechnic to resolve the present conflict while minimising the loss of confidence of its students? Judicially the case is a straightforward one of the right of an individual to have his contract fulfilled despite any external pressure to the contrary.

It is clearly important that Mr Harrington receives the best possible education. The governors agreed to attempt to solve this problem by offering him private tuition. This is not being pusillanimous. It was an honest effort to fulfil our obligations to several thousand other students.

Yours faithfully,
A. ROSEN,
S. BUNDRED,
IRENE CHAPLIN,
KEITH COOK,
BOB CROSSMAN,
B. DAVIDSON,
PAT EAST,
ROBERT GILCHRIST,
RICHARD HUMM,
M. KAUFMAN,
M. LEVENE,
MARGARET MADEN,
M O'REILLY.
The Polytechnic of North London,
166-220 Holloway Road, N7.
May 24.

From Dr Christopher R. Clark

Sir, I was most pleased to read the *Times* leader (May 18) concerning the Polytechnic of North London. It is felt by many staff in the somewhat applied areas of business, technology and science in this polytechnic that a strong emphasis towards swift reason and justice needs to be made in order to preserve the educational provision offered in north London.

It may come as some surprise to realise that the "troubles of 1984" (sociology and humanities) have both occurred at outposts of the polytechnic – Ladbroke House and Kentish Town Building – while on the main site of the polytechnic on the Holloway Road work and life go on as usual.

It could be that the Holloway Road site houses most of the technologies, sciences and business areas of study where there seems a marked desire from both staff and students to pursue the bases of our operation – teaching, researching, educating and training.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER R. CLARK,
Head of The Business School (Courses),
The Polytechnic of North London,
The Business School,
2-16 Eden Grove, N7.
May 22.

Arbitration need on teachers' pay

From the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers

Sir, Your editorial, entitled "Teachers' tantrums" (May 21), rightly concentrates not only upon the current impasse in the 1984 salary negotiations but also upon the future structure that might result from the discussions in the Burnham salary structure working party. However, your arguments appear to be based on two rather important misconceptions.

Firstly, you state that the teachers' representatives were told informally at a very early stage that 4.5 per cent would be acceptable to the employers. This is quite incorrect and it is equally wrong and really rather simplistic to argue that the tendency of arbitrators is to split the difference between the claim and the offer.

Secondly, whilst my association is fully committed to the restructuring discussions and supports much of what you say about the need to reward outstanding merit, the fact remains that the restructuring proposals go a good deal further because they rightly attempt to remove the current blockage in terms of promotion prospects, underpin Sir Keith Joseph's desire to improve teacher quality, eliminate a number of "grey areas" in terms of the teacher's contract of employment and make sure that the staffing structures of our schools meet the curricular and organisational needs of those schools.

There is, however, no guarantee whatsoever that the restructuring discussions will lead to a solution and in the meantime the legitimate grievances of teachers over their salary levels will remain unresolved.

The 1984 salary claim cannot be settled on the basis of what might emerge in 1985 and beyond out of the restructuring discussions, particularly bearing in mind some of the very considerable difficulties yet to be overcome in this forum.

The teacher salary claim for this year must be referred to arbitration as the only sensible and civilised way of breaking what appears to be a deadlock which is causing untold damage to the education service.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HART, General Secretary,
The National Association of Head Teachers,
Holly House,
6 Paddockhall Road,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

American lawsuits

From Mr Andrew MacLaren

Sir, as a lawyer who has practised in both England and New York I may be able to shed some light on some of the statistics mentioned by Nicholas Ashford in his article of May 18.

There are basically two reasons which enable Americans to become more litigious:

1. Their advocates are permitted to charge contingent fees and often do. On this basis the plaintiff pays nothing unless the lawyer is successful. If he is successful, the remuneration will be a percentage (sometimes as high as 30 per cent) of the damages recovered.

2. Civil trials are heard before a jury, which not only determines liability but also assesses damages. This includes actions for defamation and negligence, including professional malpractice. Members of juries are subjected to emotional courtroom techniques. Advocates who will receive a percentage of the damages awarded are more likely to practise such techniques. A judge might be less impressed than a jury.

Obviously a plaintiff will issue proceedings if he or she risks no financial loss should the case fail and may recover artificially inflated damages should it succeed.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MacLAREN,
58 Dry Hill Park Road,
Tonbridge, Kent.

Members' perks

From Mr G. Eade

Sir, On Thursday (May 17) you reported that MPs had passed a clause exempting from tax their expenses allowance of £6,163, without one word of debate. This is equivalent to a pay rise of just over £1,800.

Since the Exchequer, in accordance with the Government's policies, has doubtless done its sums very carefully, is it possible that there will have to be a reduction in the number of MPs to pay for this increase? Or will there be a reduction in the books, equipment and maintenance allowances payable for the House of Commons?

Is it not the case that present levels of payment are attracting sufficient candidates of the desired quality for Parliament?

A case for arbitration? Or can't we afford it?

Yours faithfully,
G. EADE,
2 Green Lane,
Overton,
Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

Flourishing elms

From Dr Joan Webber

Sir, With reference to the recent correspondence on wych elm in the Welsh mountains, I would like to take this opportunity to correct a popular misconception voiced by Mr Sankey-Barker (May 14), namely the supposed greater resistance to Dutch elm disease of the wych elm (*Ulmus glabra*) compared with the English and field elms (*U procera* and *U campestris*).

In the early stages of the present epidemic, Forestry Commission surveys showed that wych elm was indeed resisting the ravages of the disease much better than English elm and at least as well as the field elm. However, when inoculated with the "new" aggressive strain of the Dutch elm disease fungus, wych elm proved to be much the least resistant of our elm species.

This apparent anomaly has been explained by recent experiments which show that wych elm is less favoured by the vector beetles for feeding than is English elm. Consequently, in the earlier stages of the epidemic beetles probably fed preferentially on English elm when it was available, resulting in high disease levels in this species.

Following the destruction of most mature English elms, the beetles have turned their attention to the surviving but more disease-susceptible wych elm.

In this context it is worth emphasising that up till now attempts to breed elms resistant to the disease have concentrated on selecting for resistance to the pathogen and have yet to incorporate characteristics which make elms unattractive to the beetles for feeding.

Yours faithfully,
JOAN WEBBER,
Forestry Commission Research Station,
Alice Holt Lodge,
Farnham,
Surrey.
May 18.

Justice in Turkey

From the Ambassador of Turkey

Sir, I have read your leading article, "File on torture" (May 10) with great disappointment. The allegations of "widespread and systematic torture" put forward by Amnesty International, an organization which seems to be held in such high esteem by your paper, are presented in your article as unquestionable facts.

As I am sure you know, the Subcommittee on Turkey of the Political and Legal Affairs Committees of the Council of Europe sent a delegation to Turkey, where they were given the exceptional opportunity of visiting two prisons. They interviewed freely whom they wished there. Their findings have been submitted to the Council of Europe and through it to the general public.

Their report shows that a number of individuals whom Amnesty International claimed to be dead were alive and well.

One other fact that the committee has established is that many allegations of torture in Turkey, put forward by various sources, are unfounded. Although isolated cases have occurred, torture is not applied either systematically or in a widespread manner in Turkey and the Government is actively trying to eradicate it totally.

It is common knowledge that Turkey's Administration has never failed to investigate any allegations of torture and, in cases where it was proven to be true, those who were responsible were put on trial and sentenced duly. Recently, the Turkish Government has appointed a committee to further investigate the conditions in prisons and make recommendations for their improvement.

It is regrettable that in your article you associate yourself so readily and uncritically with so evidently biased views put forward by Amnesty International. I wonder therefore if your article would serve any purpose other than to mislead your readers about the real situation in Turkey.

Yours faithfully,
R. GUMRUKCUOGLU,
Turkish Embassy,
43 Belgrave Square, SW1.
May 16.

Kind thoughts of Betjeman

From the Chairman of Macmillan Publishers Ltd

Sir, It is sad that Sir John Betjeman did not live to see the conclusion of the first stage in the programme of restoration of the Church of St Mary-le-Strand in which he had a great interest.

The spire, which has had to come down stone by stone, is about to be reassembled and within 10 weeks the familiar silhouette of St Mary's, described by Sir John as "the finest baroque", will once again grace the Strand.

It was largely due to the Poet Laureate's enthusiasm and support that the extensive programme of restoration and renovation was undertaken and it is to be hoped that the continuing work will serve as a reminder of his passionate dedication to London's heritage.

Yours sincerely,
MACMILLAN OF OVENDEN,
Chairman,
Macmillan Publishers Ltd,
4 Little Essex Street, WC2.
May 23.

From the Precentor of Lincoln

Sir, I am glad you mentioned Sir John Betjeman's fear of death in your second leader today (May 21). He conquered this fear by visiting St Bartholomew's Hospital, near his house in Cloth Fair.

On alternate Mondays he would talk to patients in Percivall Pott and Lawrence wards – not about the weather, but about their outlook on life, their reaction to pain and to the prospect of dying.

I was a long-term patient at the time, and I remember the thrill of being asked to contribute to Collins's *Guide to English Churches*, which Sir John was then editing.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID RUTTER,
The Precentory,
12 Eastgate,
Lincoln.
May 21.

Pursued by a bear

From Mrs G. L. Nunns

Sir, Mr Hempleman-Adams is not the only Englishman to have had a narrow escape from a bear in the polar regions. My maternal great-great-uncle was a member of the crew of the Hecla, which sailed from Hammerfest on April 27, 1827, under Captain (as he then was) Parry.

One of those detailed to stay with the parent ship while the survey boats were out, he wrote in his journal that "each man was armed with a boarding pike and musket to protect himself from the Bears". Out with a shooting party one Sunday morning he left his companions and went after a couple of deer:

> having come up within gun shot of them I fired at them, when up sprung a large Bear from a hollow close under the muzzle of my gun. I knew not how to act, not having any more ammunition. I immediately turned and made the best of my way towards the ship, but our clothing being so very heavy I could not get on very fast. Whether from the report of the gun frightening him or what I do not know as he did not follow me ... When I got on board I was severely reprimanded by our First Lieut, as it was our orders that we should not separate from each other nor fire our last round till we came on board.

He also recorded that "we shot two Bears and eat them without salt, which made some of the crew very ill".

Yours faithfully,
GERTRUDE NUNNS,
115 Sandown Road,
Deal,
Kent.

Twin appeals

From the Reverend J. H. Biddell

Sir, Two thoughts about Barry Norman's timely appeal for more spin bowling, (May 19).

One: spin bowling is much more *fun* for the bowler than fast bowling. That was certainly my experience in doing a bit of each during 43 years of school, college, and club cricket.

Two: in one respect the writer was not fair in his comparison with baseball; I do not believe that in the American game the pitcher walks fifty yards and then runs fifty yards before each delivery. Happy for them!

Yours faithfully,
J. H. BIDDELL,
Snape Cottage,
Wiltown,
Curry Rivel,
Langport,
Somerset.

Missing wheels

From Mrs R. H. C. Downham

Sir, May I add to the information which Mr Kenneth Fry (May 22) has been given about the provision of wheelchairs at the Liverpool International Garden Festival.

Handicapped people who wish to use a wheelchair at the festival are advised to contact the Red Cross at least a day before by telephoning our stand at the festival (051-727 8000, extension 298). We will then arrange for one to be available at the most convenient entrance.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH H. C. DOWNHAM,
Director,
Merseyside County Branch,
British Red Cross Society,
Red Cross House,
Orphan Drive, Liverpool.

Smear tactics?

From Mr Philip English

Sir, Frank Johnson (Paris Diary, May 21), in extolling breakfast at the cafés Flore and Deux Magots, openly admits to eating butter with croissants. Could it be this peculiar habit that saved him from the attentions of existentialists *et al*?

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP ENGLISH,
14 Milborne Grove, SW10.
May 23.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 24: The Duke of Edinburgh, President of World Wildlife Fund International, arrived at Perth Airport in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight this evening upon the conclusion of His Royal Highness's visit to Washington DC.

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN was in attendance.

The Queen was represented by Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson at the Memorial Service for Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Harris, Bt which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Air Marshal Sir Peter Horsley.

The Queen was represented by Major-General James Eyre at the Memorial Service for General Sir Basil Eugster which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir Rodney Moore.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon opened the Maritime Museum in Aberdeen.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

Her Majesty was represented by Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir John Grandy at the Memorial Service for Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Harris, Bt which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt at the Memorial Service for General Sir Basil Eugster which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 24: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the Headquarters of the Ordnance Survey and the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments Office, Southampton, Hampshire.

His Royal Highness, attended by Mr David Roycroft and Mr John Higgs, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales, Master of the Bench of Gray's Inn, this evening attended the Grand Day Dinner at Gray's Inn.

Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Colonel David Lewis at the Memorial Service for General Sir Basil Eugster which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

May 24: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited Birmingham and was received on arrival at New Street Station by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands (The Earl of Aylesford).

In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness opened The Princess Margaret Haematology Ward at East Birmingham Hospital, and later toured the Unit.

Mrs Angus Blair was in attendance.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was represented by Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick at the Memorial Service for General Sir Basil Eugster which was held in the Guards Chapel today.

May 24: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales Own) left Royal Air Force Northolt this morning in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight to visit the Regiment in Fallingbostel, Federal Republic of Germany.

Mrs Michael Harvey and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland were in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester this morning visited Royal Air Force, Uxbridge. In the evening His Royal Highness, Grand Prior, The Order of St John was present at the Twentieth Anniversary Charity Performance of Theatre West 4 of *The Pajama Game* given in aid of St John Ambulance at Chiswick Town Hall, London.

Major Nigel Chamberlayne-Macdonald was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, was present today at the Eighteenth Birthday Luncheon of The Hospitallers Club of Wales, at the House of Lords.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Dame Felicity Peake at the Memorial Service for Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Harris, Bt which was held in Westminster Abbey today.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 24: The Duke of Kent, as President, this morning attended the Automobile Association's Annual General meeting at The Savoy Hotel. His Royal Highness, as Patron of the Leukeamia Research Fund, later attended the Piper Champagne National Hunt Awards Luncheon which was held at the Dorchester Hotel in aid of the Leukeamia Research Fund and the Injured Jockey's Fund.

Captain Charles Blount was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of Kent were entertained at dinner this evening by His Excellency The Ambassador of The United States of America and Mrs Price at Winfield House, Regent's Park, London NW1.

Sir Richard Buckley and Mrs David Napier were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 24: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened the new St Ivel Creamery of Unigate at Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at a Dinner given in honour of Dr Lusi Palau at Tallow Chandlers Hall, London EC2.

Mrs Marigold Armitage deeply regrets that owing to her being in hospital she was unable to attend the memorial service for her father, Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Sir Arthur Harris.

Lord and Lady Balfour of Inchrye much regret they were unable to be at the memorial service in Westminster Abbey for Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Sir Arthur Harris.

The Hon Neville Berry very much regrets that he was unable to attend the memorial service for General Sir Basil Eugster owing to absence abroad.

Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vanneck regrets that he was unable to attend the memorial service for Marshal of the RAF Sir Arthur Harris, owing to absence abroad.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Dr Ernest Ralph Lapwood, Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, will be held in the college chapel on Saturday, June 16, 1984, at 2.30pm.

A memorial service for Sir Arthur Hope-Jones will be held today at 11.30 at St James's Piccadilly.

A memorial service for Mr Derek Francis will be held today at noon at St Paul's, Covent Garden.

Birthdays today

Lord Aldington, 70; Mr Miles Davis, 58; Dr Carel de Wet, 60; Mr Malcolm Innes of Edingight, 46; Mr David Jenkins, 32; Mr Ian McKellen, 45; the Right Rev M. A. Mann, 60; Lord Maybray-King, 83; Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Norman, 88; Lord Plummer of St Marylebone, 70; Baroness Sharp, 81; His Honour Alastair Sharp, QC, 73; Miss Beverly Sills, 55; Sir Eric Tansley, 83; Professor Sir Francis Vallat, QC, 72; Mr David Wynne, 58.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. N. Ward
and Miss E. Butterworth
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Neville, younger son of General Sir Richard and Lady Ward, of Little Sheldons, Hook, Hampshire, and Elizabeth, only daughter, of Mr and Mrs Vernon Butterworth, of Thornton, Clevelys, Lancashire.

Mr P. Barnett
and Miss C. Beeston
The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mrs L. H. Barnett (née Tarneller) of Picolhof, Goldrain, South Tyrol, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr P. Beeston and the late Mrs Beeston, of Pixton Way, Forestdale, Surrey.

Mr A. J. Bignold
and Miss T. A. L. Kingdom
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Sidney Bignold, of Kingston Vale, London, and Tricia, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Kingdom, of Kingston, Devon. The marriage will take place quietly in June in Devon.

Mr C. J. Bromfield
and Mrs C. R. Cheyne
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Dr and Mrs F. B. Bromfield, of The Blue House, Rodborough Common, Stroud, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. R. F. Vandersteegen-Drake, of The Old Tannery, Ecchinswell, Newbury.

Mr R R Stewart-Brown
and Miss J R Birch Reynardson
The engagement is announced between Ronald, elder son of the late Mr R D Stewart-Brown, QC, and of Mrs M G Talbot-Rice, of Blenheim Drive, Oxford, and Juliet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W R A Birch Reynardson, of Adwell House, Tetsworth, Oxfordshire.

Mr R. Fewtrell
and Miss A. L. Carmichael
The engagement is announced between Richard, third son of Mr and Mrs R. Fewtrell, of Weymouth, Dorset, and Alex, third daughter of Mr and Mrs D. F. Carmichael, of Hongkong.

Mr F. J. L. Dunne
and Miss A. Isaacs
The engagement is announced between Francis Dunne, of Lowestoft, Suffolk, and Anne Isaacs, of Chelsea, London, younger daughter of the late Mr and Mrs C. Isaacs, of Southsea, Hampshire.

Mr C. M. Fisher
and Miss D. E. Williams
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs K. J. Fisher, of The Grange, Cheltenham, and Denise, daughter of Mr and Mrs C. J. Williams, of Suva, Fiji.

Mr R. W. Godsill
and Miss C. M. Chisnell
The engagement is announced between Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs K. T. Godsill, of Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex, and Catherine only daughter of the Rev H. R. and Mrs Chisnell, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Mr D C H Taylor
and Miss S L Root
The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Brian Taylor, of Tring, Hertfordshire, and Sarah, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Root, of Wendover, Buckinghamshire.

Mr I G Walker
and Miss K M Salter
The engagement is announced between Ian Geoffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Rowland Walker, of Sheffield, Yorkshire, and Kathryn Mary, daughter of Mrs Bridget Salter and the late Mr Benjamin Salter, of Eastbourne, Sussex.

Mr G. R. S. Lark
and Miss P. M. Gooch
The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Lark, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Phillipa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Gooch, of Bere Regis, Dorset.

Mr J. P. N. Martin
and Miss G. C. Denton
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs N. F. Martin, of Sutton Coldfield, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. Denton, of Allestree, Derby.

Lieutenant P B Mathias, RN
and Miss A J Cantan
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Surgeon Rear Admiral (D) F R B Mathias, QHDS, and Mrs Mathias, of Fareham, Hampshire and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs P H Cantan, of Cam House, Guernsey.

Mr T G Peet
and Miss A B Burton
The engagement is announced between Thomas Geoffrey, son of Mrs N M Peet, at St Helen's, Merseyside, and Anne Belinda, daughter of the Rev J H S and Mrs Burton, of London, W2.

Mr M Scott
and Miss S K Floate
The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Mr and Mrs D A Scott, of Selby, Yorkshire, and Susan Kimberley, only daughter of Mr and Mrs R W Floate, of Fulham, London.

Mr J.-P. Richardet
and Miss S. Duke
The engagement is announced between Jean-Paul Richardet and Sarah, younger daughter of the late Sir Charles Duke and of Lady Duke.

Mr M G White
and Miss M C Egerton
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs A W White, of Guildford, Surrey, and Caroline, daughter of Major-General and Mrs D B Egerton, of Cheselbourne, Dorset.

The marriage arranged between Captain William Molesworth-St Aubyn and Miss Tracey Porter for Saturday, July 14, will not take place.

Luncheons

Lady Maclean
Lord Maclean, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Lady Maclean entertained at luncheon at the Palace of Holyroodhouse yesterday. Their guests were:
Sir Ivor and Lady Colquhoun of Luss, Colonel Sir John and Lady Gilmour, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Eric and Lady Penn, the Chaplain General and Mrs Johnston, Mr and Mrs W G Gordon, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Campbell-Preston, Lady Jean Rankin, Mr Stanley Gimson, QC, Mr and Mrs Robert Cowan, Mr and Mrs David Fellowes and Mr and Mrs J B Smith.

Royal Institute of International Affairs
Admiral Sir James Eberle was host at a luncheon held at Chatham House yesterday at which the guest of honour was Lord Carrington, CH, Secretary-General-designate of Nato. The other guests were:
Miss Bridget Bloom, Admiral Sir Richard Clayton, Viscount Garnock, Lord Harlech, Sir Robin Haydon, Sir Maurice Hodgson, Miss Eileen Menzies, Professor Cesare Merlini, Mr David Suratgar, Mr E J Symons, Sir Robert Telford, Admiral Sir John Treacher, Dr William Wallace and Mr David Watton.

Receptions

Mayor of Weston-super-Mare
The Mayor of Weston-super-Mare, Councillor John Crockford-Hawley, held a reception yesterday at the Town Hall to mark Mayor Making.

Anglo-Ecuadorian Society
The Anglo-Ecuadorian Society held a reception yesterday in honour of Pichincha Day. The guests were received by the Ambassador of Ecuador and Señora Galo Leoro.







Leaving the thanksgiving service at Westminster Abbey yesterday for the life of the wartime chief of Bomber Command are: Wing Commander Robert Stanford-Tuck, the wartime fighter pilot, Lady Harris, widow of Marshal of the RAF Sir Arthur Harris, and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC. (Photographs: John Manning).

Sir Arthur's war role defended

Sir Arthur Harris had no alternative to the controversial aerial bombing of German cities during the Second World War, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Michael Beetham said yesterday (Michael Horsnell writes).

Sir Michael's defence of the much criticized Commander in Chief of Bomber Command came during the address at the service of thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey for the life of Sir Arthur, who died last month at 91.

"He was arguably the greatest of Britain's wartime operational commanders. . .certainly the greatest produced by the RAF", Sir Michael, former Chief of the Air Staff, said.

Bomber Command was the only weapon at Britain's disposal at a most depressing time of the war. When sir Arthur took over as Commander-in-Chief bomber attacks against Germany were largely ineffective, he said.

"That he was able to transform his command in the space of a few months and launch a devastating raid on Cologne was a truly remarkable achievement. He weakened the sinews of the German strength. His area bombing of cities had been strongly criticized in some quarters but in practice there was no alternative if there was to be an offensive at all".

Sir Michael added that it was felt, not only by Sir Arthur but by the War Cabinet and the Chiefs of Staff, that to destroy the will of the German people and make them homeless and incapable of their manufacturing tasks might end the war as effectively as on the battlefield.

Memorial services

Marshal of the RAF
Sir Arthur Harris
The Queen was represented by Marshal of the RAF Sir William Dickson and the Duke of Edinburgh by Air Marshal Sir Peter Horsley at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Marshal of the RAF Sir Arthur Harris held in Westminster Abbey yesterday. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grundy and Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester by Air Commodore Dame Felicity Peake. The Dean of Westminster officiated, assisted by the Rev Alan Luff and the Ven R G Renowden, Chaplain-in-Chief of the RAF. The Hon Nicholas Assheton, son-in-law, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Williamson, Chief of the Air Staff, read the lessons and Marshal of the RAF Sir Michael Beetham gave an address. The Secretary of State for Defence and Mrs Heseltine, and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster attended. Others present included:
Lady Harris (widow), Sir Anthony Harris (son), Miss Rosemary Harris and the Hon Mrs Assheton (daughters), Mr and Mrs Rupert Armitage, Mr Thomas Assheton, Miss Caroline Assheton and Miss Mary Therese Assheton (grandchildren), Mr Murray Harris, Mr Peter Prideaux-Brune, Mr and Mrs Timothy Parr, Mr Nicholas Prideaux-Brune, Miss Chantal Harris, Miss Juliet Harris, Mr and Mrs Alan Elliot, Mr Ian Elliot, Miss Alexandra Elliot, Group Captain and Mrs P Lloyd.

The Marchioness of Willingdon, Group Captain the Earl of Ilchester, the Countess of Avon, Viscount and Viscountess Trenchard, Viscount and Viscountess Bledisloe, Joan Viscountess Bledisloe, Lord Tregarne, Marshal of the RAF Lord Cameron of Balhousie, Lord Clitheroe (High Steward of Westminster) and Lady Clitheroe, Lord and Lady Cayzer, Lord Zuckerman, OM, Lady Jennifer Bernard, the Hon R J and Mrs Assheton, the Hon Lady Worsley, the Hon Jocelyn Hotham, Sir Alfred Beit, Elizabeth Lady Holcroft, Helen Lady Dashwood, Sir David and Lady Black.

Marshal of the RAF Sir Dennis and Lady Spotswood, Marshal of the RAF Sir Dermot Boyle (Order of the Bath), General Sir John Stanier (Chief of the General Staff), Air Chief Marshal David Craig (AOC-in-C Strike Command) and Lady Craig, Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy (Air Member for Personnel) and Lady Kennedy, Air Chief Marshal Sir Harry and Lady Broadhurst, Air Chief Marshal Sir Edmund and Lady Hudleston, Air Chief Marshal Sir Walter and Lady Merton, Air Chief Marshal Sir Wallace and Lady Kyle, Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis and Lady Barnett.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Kenneth and Lady Cross, Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus and Lady Walker, Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Prickett, Air Chief Marshal Sir Frederick and Lady Rosier, Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil and Lady Wheeler, Air Chief Marshal Sir Derek and Lady Hodgkinson, Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville Stack, Air Chief Marshal Sir Nigel and Lady Maynard, Air Chief Marshal Sir John and Lady Aiken, Air Chief Marshal Sir David Evans, Air Marshal Sir Michael Knight (Air Member for Supply and Organization), Air Marshal Sir Peter Harding (Vice-Chief of the Air Staff) and Lady Harding.

Air Marshal Sir Denis Crowley-Milling (RAF Benevolent Fund), Air Marshal Sir John Whitley, Air Marshal Sir Maurice and Lady Heath, Air Marshal Sir John and Lady Curtiss, Air Marshal Sir Patrick Dunn, Air Marshal Sir Edward Chilton, Air Marshal Sir Humphrey Edwardes-Jones, Air Marshal Sir Harold and Lady Martin, Air Marshal Sir John and Lady Fitzpatrick, Air Marshal Sir Eric Dunn, Air Marshal Sir Donald Hall.

Major-General Sir Peter Gillett, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew (Army and Navy Club), Lady Bader, Lady Constantine, Lady Dean, Lady Humphrey, Lady Williamson, Lady Boyle, Lady Grandy, Lady Beetham, Lady Horsley, Lady Longmore, Sir Guy Lawrence, Lady Coryton, Lady Saundby, Dame Isabel Graham Bryce, Mr Gerald and Lady Mary Pawle, Mr and the Hon Mrs D A Pease, Air Marshal D Harcourt-Smith (AOC-in-C RAF Support Command) and Mrs Harcourt-Smith, Rear-Admiral G G N Marsh (representing the Chief of the Naval Staff), Rear-Admiral C A W Weston (King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers), Air Commodore R C Allen (representing the C-in-C RAF Germany), Air Commodore Helen Renton (director, WRAF), Air Commodore I J Harris (director, Nursing Services RAF, and matron-in-chief, PMRAFNS), Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, Wing Commander R A B Learoyd, VC, Mr N C Jackson, VC, and Mrs Jackson, Mr and Mrs C T S Manser, Mr and Mrs Brian Trubshaw, Mr Winston S Churchill, MP, and Mrs Churchill, Mr John Profumo, Mrs Guy Gibson, Mr John Stanley, MP, Mr and Mrs D C Humphreys, Group Captain P L Harris (RAuxAF), Colonel K W Cordier (USAF) and Mrs Cordier.

Mr D A Young-James (Aspian Society), Air Commodore A D A Honley (SBAC), Group Captain J Laycock (44 Rhodesian Squadron Association), Flight Lieutenant C B Megone (RAF Officers' Club, Cape Town), Air Commodore C H Clarke (RAF ex-POW Association), Captain K Blevins and Mr W T S Rossiter (Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators), Mr J D Musgrove (Caterpillar Club), Councillor F G Secker (representing the Mayor and Charter Trustees of High Wycombe), Mr P S Larkman (Allhallows School), Councillor P A Allen (Honiton Town Council), Councillor S A Goulborn (Wycombe District Council), Mr S R Whipple (Liverpool University), Mr C White (Montagu, Loebl, Stanley and Company), Colonel P B Murray (Franco-Brittanique Association), Mr Andrew Boyle, Mr William Worsley, Mr Giles Worsley, Miss Sarah Worsley, Mr Brian Cook, Mr John Fairley, Mr and Mrs James Denny, Mr and Mrs Frank Smith, Miss Jennifer Smith, Mrs Ian Service, Mr and Mrs Roger Smith, Mrs B Gratten-Bellew, Miss S R Gratten-Bellew, Mr and Mrs David Tomlinson, Mr Michael Tomlinson, Mr Paul Tomlinson, Group Captain and Mrs R P Saundby, Mr and Mrs Robert Spencer-Churchill, Mrs David Peake and Mr George Davies.

General Sir Basil Eugster
The Queen was represented by Major-General James Eyre and the Duke of Edinburgh by General Sir Rodney Moore at a memorial service for General Sir Basil Eugster in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, yesterday. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was represented by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, the Pince of Wales by Colonel David Lewis, Princess Margaret by Major Lord Napier and Ettrick, and the Duke of Kent by Colonel James Dundsmure. The Very Rev Michael Casey, the Rev Neville Thomas and Father Hugh Beattie officiated. Mr Christopher Eugster, son, read an extract from *Journey for a Soul* by Pope John XXIII and Mr Timothy Eugster, son, read the lesson. Brigadier D. M. L. Gordon-Watson gave an address. Among others present were:
Mrs Christopher Eugster and Mrs Timothy Eugster (daughters-in-law), Mr John Eugster, Mr Maximilian Eugster, Mr Rupert Eugster, Miss Alexandra Eugster and Miss Julia Eugster (grandchildren), Mrs Edward Eugster, Mr Charles Eugster, Miss Antoinette Eugster, Mr and Mrs Andrew Boyd, Mr Michael Boyd, Mr and Mrs Ronald Medlicott, Major-General the Earl of Cathcart, Mr Norman and Lady Louisa Socorate.

The Earl and Countess of Enniskillen, the Earl of Shannon, Earl Alexander of Tunis, Vivian Countess of Munster, Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan Howard (Colonel, Life Guards) and Lady Michael Fitzalan Howard, Viscount Gough, Viscount Mountgarrett, Major-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley.

Field Marshal Lord and Lady Carver, Lord Ampthill, Lord Grimthorpe, Lord Westbury, Lord Mowbray and Stourton, Lord Moyola, Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, Lord and Lady Fairhaven, Lady Claud Hamilton, the Hon Jeremy Stopford, Lady Victoria Scott, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Hugh O'Neill, the Hon T and Mrs Prillie, Colonel the Hon Julian and Mrs Berry, Major-General Sir Allan Adair, Major-General Sir John and Lady Younger, Lady Forwood, Major-General Sir James d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, Sir Richard Rasch, Sir James Henry, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Julian Paget, Sir James Cayzer, General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick (Colonel the Blues and Royals) and Lady Fitzpatrick, Lieutenant-General Sir David and Lady Scott-Barrett, Sir Henry and Lady Clowes, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Huxtable (representing C-in-C, UK Land Forces), Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller, Major-General Sir George Burns (Colonel, Coldstream Guards).

Vice-Admiral Sir Ronald Brockman (Devon County Agricultural Association), Lady Bowes-Lyon, General Sir Michael Gow, Sir Brian Warren, General Sir Charles and Lady Jones, General Sir Richard Trant (representing the Army Board), Lady Templer, General Sir Geoffrey Musson, Sir Oliver Chesterton, General Sir Victor and Lady Fitzgeorge-Balfour, Major-General Sir Digby and Lady Raeburn, General Sir Antony Read, Lieutenant-General Sir Napier Crookenden, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston (chairman, SAAFA), Lady (Rodney) Moore, Wing Commander G L and Lady Bridget Sinclair, Colonel I W and Lady Joan Gore-Langton, Major-General and the Hon Mrs P R Leuchars, Major-General and Mrs Peter Downward, Major-General H Bredin (Honorary Colonel), Royal Irish Rifles), Major-General R H Whitworth, Judge and Mrs John Stucley, Brigadier and Mrs H L S Saville Young, Major T J Tedder (representing Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Grenadier Guards), Mr William Bell, Mr John Swire.

Brigadier P D F Thursby (representing Colonel Commandant, the Parachute Regiment and Army Sport Control Board), Colonel J H Baker (Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel, Irish Guards) and Mrs Baker, with Lieutenant-Colonel J E Williams and Major H R G Wilson.

Mr J. G. Marriage, QC
The Lord Chief Justice attended a memorial service for Mr John Goodbody Marriage, QC, held at the Temple Church on Wednesday. The Master of the Temple officiated and the Treasurer of the Inner Temple read the lesson. Lord Justice Lawton gave an address. Among those present were:
Mrs Marriage (widow), Mr Tom Marriage and Mr David Marriage (sons), Miss Josephine Marriage, Deborah and Tabitha Marriage (daughters), Mr Henry Marriage (brother), Mr and Mrs Peter Newall (brother-in-law and sister), Mr Christopher Newall, Mr M G Beale, Mr Michael Goodbody, Miss Julia Wilson, Mr Edward Marriage, Mr David Marriage, Mrs V Macdougall.

Viscount Chelsea, Lord Manton (Jockey Club), Lord Dunboyne, Lord Wigoder, Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, MP, Mr Justice Taylor, Mr Justice Mann, Mr Justice French, Mr Justice Leonard, Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, Mr Justice Skinner (Judicial Studies Board), the Hon Sir John Astor, the Hon Michael Summerskill, Sir Alexander Reid, Sir Harold Cassel, QC, Sir Lionel Thompson, Sir Woodrow Wyatt, Sir David Sells and Lady Sells (Bassingbourn Village College), Sir Hugh Wontner, Sir Ian Trethowan, Judge Sir William Stabb, QC, the Sub-Treasurer, Inner Temple, Major-General R B Penfold.

Judge Shindler (Inner London Crown Court), Judge Walling, QC, Judge Aglionby, Judge West-Russell, Judge Butler, QC, Judge Greenwood, Judge Lowry, Judge Richard Lowry, Judge Machin, Judge Francis Petre, Judge Abdela, QC, Judge Mendl, Mr B M McDonnell (Horserace Totalizator Board), His Honour Ifor Lloyd, QC, Mr Richard Tucker, QC, Mrs V Howard-Vyse, Mr R G T Speer, the Common Serjeant, Mr M J Churchouse (Hills and Perks, Norwich, and Norfolk and Norwich Incorporated Law Society), Mr O Sowande and Mr J T Sheldrake (International Stores) with Mr R C Grayson.

Marriages

Mr A. Gregory
and the Hon Emily Astor
The marriage took place at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday of Mr Alan Gregory, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Gregory, of San Francisco, California, and the Hon Emily Astor, only daughter of the late Viscount Astor and Philippa, Viscountess Astor, of Kensington, London. Canon Trevor Beeson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by Viscount Astor, was attended by the Hon Flora, the Hon William and James Astor, Polly Astor, Ines Correa de Sá, Matilda Hunloke, Clare Ker and Emma Munro-Wilson. Mr Carter Larsen was best man.

A reception was held at the Turf Club and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr I N P Dickinson
and Miss H S Davenport
The marriage took place on May 19, at the church of the blessed Mary, Boyton, Wiltshire, between Mr Ivor Dickinson, eldest son of Mr I J Dickinson of Riding Hill, Northumberland, and Mrs J Price, of East Chiltington, Sussex, and Miss Henrietta Davenport, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs S G Davenport, of Codford, Wiltshire. The Rev George Hope and The Rev John Tipping officiated.

The bride who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Katie, James and Flora Urquhart, Sam Bygott-Webb, Tobin and Max Dickinson and Mark Griffith Jones. Mr Michael Fitzroy was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent in Italy.

Mr P D Marshall
and Miss J P Goolden
The marriage took place on May 19 at Withyham, Sussex, of Mr Paul Marshall, son of Mr and Mrs Frank Marshall, of Hampton, and Miss Jill Goolden, daughter of Mr Douglas and the Hon Mrs Goolden, of Withyham. The Rev P L Scott officiated.

Mr R J N Gilbey
and Miss A M Root
The marriage took place in Wendover on April 26 between Mr Robert Gilbey, eldest son of Mr and Mrs James Gilbey, of Compton Pauncefoot, Somerset, and Miss Amanda Root, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Root of Wendover, Buckinghamshire.

Mr K W Smith-Bingham
and Mrs F M Pilkington
The marriage took place in London on Monday, May 21, between Mr Kim Smith-Bingham and Mrs Fiona Pilkington.

Mr Z Staniaszek
and Miss N Turska
The marriage took place on May 19 at St Ann's Church, Fawley Court between Mr Zygmunt Staniaszek and Miss Nuna Turska.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father Mr Jerzy Turski, was attended by Krysia Chrzanowska and Joasia Fiedler. Mr Bogdan Staniaszek was best man.

Science report

Joint attempt to reduce acid rain

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The part which sulphur dioxide from power stations plays in the creation of acid rain could be avoided in several ways, but the most effective would be the removal of sulphur from the coal during combustion. Instead of polluting the atmosphere as sulphur dioxide, the sulphur would be left behind in the ash.

The National Coal Board has been enthusiastic enough to develop fluidized bed furnaces, burning crushed coal with the incorporation of some limestone, to cut out sulphur. Its main customer, the Central Electricity Generating Board, has been lukewarm about the idea but is taking an interest after criticisms that its power stations have caused ecological havoc in northern Europe.

As a consequence, the CEGB is to collaborate with the coal board on a £25m project to develop a pressurized, fluidized bed combustion at an experimental furnace at Grimethorpe colliery, near Barnsley. The plant will produce 80 megawatts of heat energy.

Developments of a furnace working under pressure allows higher operating temperatures, hence greater efficiency in the use of the fuel, as well as an environmentally cleaner process. While the NCB has welcomed the cooperation of the generating board, Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, has also told a House of Lords select committee he is appalled at the inertia in Britain over such innovations.

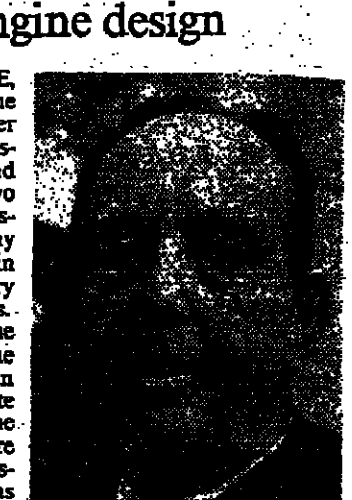
Experimental work on fluidized beds was successful more than ten years ago at the coal board's research laboratory at Stoke Orchard. The next step of building a larger trial furnace was undertaken at Grimethorpe only with the support of the International Energy Agency, through a grant which ends this year. The plant was commissioned in 1980 and used for studies on behalf of Britain, West Germany and the United States.

Joint work between the two boards begins next January, to last two years. it is intended to provide the design data for a full-scale demonstration plant. Commercial exploitation would not be before the late 1990s.

OBITUARY

SIR STANLEY HOOKER

Major contributions to aero engine design



Sir Stanley Hooker, CBE, FRS, who died yesterday at the age of 76 was an engine designer who in a career first with Rolls-Royce, then with Bristol and again from 1966 when the two companies merged, with Rolls-Royce, was involved with many of the crucial developments in aero engines in this country over a period of nearly 40 years.

At Rolls-Royce during the war he was responsible for the supercharging of the Merlin engine which led to quite dramatic improvements in the performance of the Spitfire fighter. He also interested Rolls-Royce in the work on gas turbine engines done by Sir Frank Whittle and enabled future development of jet engines to have the benefit of the company's resources. At Bristol he was responsible for the Olympus which powered the Vulcan bomber and the variable direction thrust of the Pegasus which was to be so successful in the Harrier. He also had overall responsibility for the Rolls-Royce Bristol/SNECMA Olympus 593, the power plant for Concorde.

Finally, when Rolls-Royce foundered so dramatically in 1971 on the commercial shoals of the RB-211 engine he was called from retirement to steer the development of this fine power plant to its full potential.

His prominence in the aero-engine industry could not have been foretold from his educational preparation, for he had no training in engineering or in design. Born at a farming village in Kent on September 30, 1907 he won a scholarship to Borden Grammar School and thence to Imperial College, London. He began his working life as a first-rate mathematician with a certain amount of study in aeronautics added to this when he found he was unlikely to obtain the professorship in mathematics at which he was aiming.

Having taken his BSc at Imperial College, he secured a research fellowship in aeronautics at Oxford and while there obtained a senior exhibition worth £450 a year, which allowed him to pursue his researches with a freedom from economic vigilance he had never known before. It paid dividends in a string of papers on various aspects of fluid flow, which were published either by the Royal Society or by the Air Ministry.

His laboratory work brought him into contact with another student who, when he later joined Rolls-Royce, remembered him and commended him to the notice of his chief, Mr E. W. (later Lord) Hives.

At that time, Hooker was working in the research department of the Admiralty on torpedoes and rockets. Hives invited him to Rolls-Royce in 1938 and invested £1,000 in him for that year but gave him no instructions. Hooker set himself to work on the analysis of supercharger efficiency. His report led to his being put in charge of supercharger research.

At the age of 31, he found himself for the first time the leader of a team. That was to be his function for most of the rest of his life. That first spell of individual responsibility led to an outstanding success in the middle of the war when improved supercharging of the Spitfire's Merlin engine raised the speed of that famous fighter by 70 mph and its combat ceiling by 10,000 feet.

This version of the Merlin engine was also used extensively in the North American Mustang fighters used by the RAF in place of the Packard engine, with such effect on that aircraft's performance, too, that the Merlin was manufactured by Packard in the United States in large numbers.

Meanwhile Hooker had made the acquaintance of the young Frank Whittle and his work, and had persuaded Hives to go to Lutterworth to inspect it. The upshot was the taking over by Rolls-Royce of the production of the Whittle Welland engine, with Hooker in charge of the factory and of the manufacture of the first 100.

Then he was switched to design. The project was an engine embodying an axial instead of the original centrifugal compressor; and it ran into serious trouble, so serious that the first Avon engine had to be abandoned and a fresh start made. Hives held that Hooker was responsible for the failure and all Hooker's denials were of no avail. Up to the end of his life, he held that the fault was not his; but relations had been soured and he left in 1948 with no other employment in sight.

Before a year had passed, he was engaged at Bristol, became chief engineer two years later, and was back in his stride as designer of jet engines. The company was about to advance from propeller turbines to straight jets and Hooker had a clear field. Within four years he had his first Olympus engine running. It employed a new idea in compressors, having one of low power, exhaust driven to feed into another of high power driven off the turbine.

This engine, which went into the Vulcan bomber and won high approval, yielded 11,000 lb of thrust; it was developed over the next 10 years so that it gave more than 30,000 lb of thrust when the supersonic version was ready for the Concorde. It was made under licence in the United States and it served in several aircraft for the RAF and the Royal Navy.

His next piece of originality followed the proof by his old company that the jet engine might be made to beat the helicopter at its own game. Rolls-Royce had shown with their "Flying Bedstead" that jet lift was possible, but their line of development involved the use of a battery of little jet engines firing their streams of gas downward for take-off and landing, and a separate engine for horizontal thrust.

Hooker set himself to arrive at an engine which should serve either purpose at need. The result was his Pegasus engine with four swivelling jet nozzles which could be turned through an angle of 90 degrees to give vertical or horizontal thrust or any combination of the two. That too was a success and proved itself in the little Kestrel fighter, but the big development of it was killed when, in 1965, the project for the 1154 supersonic fighter was brought to an end. The Pegasus concept therefore had to wait its day until the advent of the subsonic Harrier.

This piece of work too attracted attention overseas, for the United States and Western Germany associated themselves with the Kestrel and, in the latter country, a design for a military transport brought the Rolls-Royce and the Bristol systems together and led to an amalgamation of the two companies.

Hooker therefore found himself back with Rolls-Royce, albeit sad that the long famous names of Bristol and Siddeley were to disappear into that company. But his request for a seat on the main Rolls-Royce board was not complied with and he retired in 1967.

However he was to be called from this retirement in 1971 in the dramatic circumstances of Rolls-Royce's commercial collapse over the production of the RB-211 engine. Appointed Group Technical Director he was seconded to Derby and put in charge of RB-211 and when Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd was formed he was appointed to the main board.

He oversaw the successful development of the RB-211 and eventually retired from the main board at the end of 1976 to be appointed Technical Adviser to the Chairman (1977-81) and from 1981, Consultant.

Stanley Hooker was never one to feel that he had given his country more than it gave him. He began without any advantages except a good mind. Until his contact with practical engineering outside university his strength had lain in his ability to make mathematics give practical solutions to knotty points. He was to acquire a full understanding of engineering and metallurgy as he went along.

His autobiography, *Not much of an Engineer*, was published on the day he died, taking its title from a remark Hives is supposed to have made when interviewing him for his first job at Rolls-Royce.

Hooker had been elected FRS in 1962, appointed CBE in 1964 and, perhaps somewhat belatedly, knighted in 1974. He was the recipient of many honours and medals worldwide including that of an honorary professorship at the Peking Institute of Aeronautical Engineering.

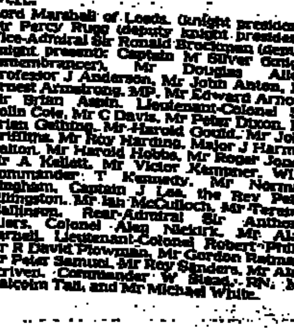
Of his first marriage, in 1936 to the Hon Margaret Bradbury there was one daughter. Of his second, in 1950 to Kate Maria Garth there was also a daughter.

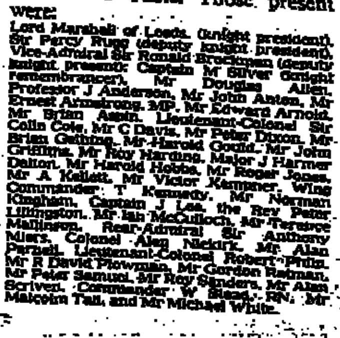
Dinners

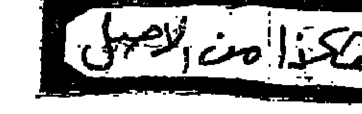
Speaker
The Speaker was host at a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday in honour of the Society of Knights of the Round Table. Those present were:
Lord Marshall of Leeds (knight president), Sir Percy Rugg (deputy knight president), Vice-Admiral Sir Ronald Brockman (deputy knight present), Captain M Silver (knight remembrancer), Mr Douglas Allen, Professor J Anderson, Mr John Anstey, Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, Mr Edward Arnold, Mr Brian Asnin, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Colin Cole, Mr C Davis, Mr Peter Dixon, Mr Brian Gething, Mr Harold Gould, Mr John Griffiths, Mr Roy Harding, Major J Harmer, Mr Harold Hobbs, Mr Roger Jones, Mr A Kellett, Mr Victor Kempner, Wing Commander T Kennedy, Mr Norman Kingham, Captain J Lea, the Rev Peter Lillingston, Mr Ian McCulloch, Mr Terence Mallinson, Rear-Admiral Sir Anthony Miers, Colonel Alec Niekirk, Mr Alan Parnell, Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Philip, Mr R David Plowman, Mr Gordon Ratman, Mr Peter Samuel, Mr Roy Sanders, Mr Alan Scriven, Commander W Stead, RN, Mr Malcolm Tall, and Mr Michael White.

Gray's Inn
The Prince of Wales, a master of the bench, was present last night when the Treasurer, Judge Brian Gibbens, QC, and masters of the bench entertained the following guests at dinner in hall, it being Grand Day of the Easter Term:
Lord Justice Stephen Brown, Lieutenant-General Sir Steuart Pringle, Bt, Sir Nicholas Henderson, Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore, Professor Raymond Hoffenberg, and Mr James Warwick Hele.

Anglo Jordanian Society
Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal and Princess Sarvath were present at the annual dinner of the Anglo Jordanian Society held at the Savoy Hotel last night. The guest of honour was Mr Ricard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affaires, who proposed the toast to the society.





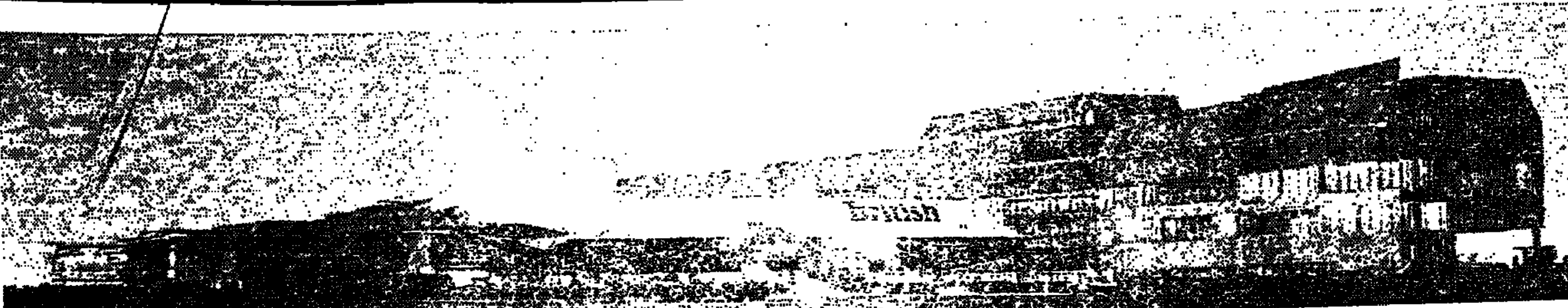


A SPECIAL REPORT

Heathrow – Terminal 4

London Airport's new passenger building will be 'topped out' today. It opens in October '85.

Photographer: A. J. Kemsley, BAA



When Terminal 4 at Heathrow, left, is completed next year another eight million passengers can be catered for, bringing the total capacity of the airport to around 38 million. The cost of this ambitious project will be £200m.

The place of London as one of the world's great aviation crossroads will be considerably enhanced by the addition to the facilities at Heathrow airport of a fourth terminal, to be topped out in a ceremony today by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport.

Terminal 4 is due to open in October, 1985, by which time the total cost of this ambitious project will be £200m. But although it will increase the passenger capacity of Heathrow by a further eight million a year, it will only defer the day when the existing London airports become full.

During the financial year 1983-84, the three existing terminals at Heathrow handled 27 million passengers, which was three million below their capacity. The addition of Terminal 4 will take total capacity of Heathrow to 38 million, but according to forecasts by the British Airports Authority, which is responsible for the original concept and design, that ceiling is likely to be reached by 1989, making a Government decision on a third airport for the capital imperative

Simpler for airlines and the clients

In the meatime, the advent of Terminal 4 should, by relieving pressure on Terminals 1, 2 and 3, make the task of operating services out of Heathrow a little less onerous for the airports authority and the airlines, and more pleasant for the passengers. After lengthy discussions, British Airways recently decided to occupy the largest proportion of the new terminal by moving all of its long-distance, and some short-haul flights there. Talks continue between the airports authority and other airlines towards filling the remaining space.

Proposals for a fourth terminal were included in a master development plan for Heathrow drawn up by the BAA as long ago as 1976, and the authority began formal consultations with the two county authorities (Surrey and the GLC) and three local councils which have interests in the site on the southern perimeter of the airport the following year.

Planning application was made by the BAA in September, 1977, and a public inquiry opened in May, 1978, to last over 93 days of hearings, closing in December, 1978. Twelve months later, at the end of 1979, government gave outline planning approval, final planning consent coming from the local authorities in September, 1981. Later that same month, work started on the foundations.

Preliminary work on the site had included the moving of hangars and aircraft hard standing to other parts of the airport, and the diversion of two small waterways, one of which feeds the ancient vine at Hampton Court Palace.

In the intervening three years, a long, low building has risen, finished externally in a silvery colour – "streamlined to complement the airliners which will use it", as one of its architects said. Its simplicity disguises the immense size and complexity of the effort which has gone, and which continues to go, into it design, planning, and construction; Terminal 4 is, after all, one of the largest current building projects in Europe.

Some 90 different contracts, ranging in value from £30,000 to £13m have been let to subcontractors from all over Britain. Three-quarters of a million cubic metres of soil have been excavated, much of it being re-used as landscaping to protect the environment of nearby houses, a quarter of a million cubic metres of concrete have been poured, 13,000 tonnes of structural steel have been erected, 49,000 square metres of external wall cladding fixed, 70,000 square metres of asphalt laid, and 40 kilometres of air-conditioning ductwork, most of it made on site, put into place.

During the fitting-out phase, 13,333 square metres of terrazo floor tiles, and 34,500 square metres of carpet will be put down. So thorough was the advance planning, that the types of carpet to be laid were selected only after various patterns had been tested by the millions of feet which tramp each year through the three existing Heathrow terminals.

The new terminal advances thinking on airports planning around the world, and is already being visited by executives from other such facilities at home and abroad. Its main change is to have one enormous departure lounge, through which up to 2,000 passengers an hour will pass, rather than a series of smaller areas, complemented by one arrivals area, with a similar hourly capacity.

Around the building there are stands for 17 airliners, with direct access into the concourse, and across the aircraft "apron" stands for five more, reached by a fleet of superior buses, or airside vehicles, as they are known. The BAA is building a special terminal, attached to the main building, where these vehicles will pick up and set down passengers. All the aircraft stands are big enough to accommodate Boeing 747 jumbo jets, and eight of them are capable of taking the "stretched" jumbo, carrying up to 800 passengers, which is only in the planning stage.

M4
M4
A4
M25
Runway 1
T1
Runway 2
London Transport Piccadilly Line Underground
Maintenance area
T3
T2
Runway 5
Cargo area
TERMINAL 4
A3044
A30

Considering matters of the environment

The impact on the local environment of such a vast development will plainly be considerable, and was the subject of detailed rulings from the local authorities. In addition to the landscaped earthworks mentioned earlier, tall blast walls in concrete are going up, and there are restrictions on the manoeuvring of airliners in the early morning and late at night. Roads around Heathrow are already heavily congested at peak times, and the use of those in the southern part of the airport by an additional 4,000 people each hour could add to the jams. But these roads are being widened, and the M3, M4, and M25 motorways are all now nearby.

Even with the opening of Terminal 4, the central factor which inhibits Heathrow's expansion – the lack of runway capacity – will remain. Government has placed a limit of 275,000 air transport movements a year on Heathrow, and traffic is already bumping up against that ceiling. Long-term solutions to London's airport difficulties lie elsewhere, but the new building must help ease the problem that has traditionally afflicted Heathrow and those who run it – how to pour a quart of passengers smoothly through a pint pot of airport space.

Arthur Reed

Top: Norman Payne, chairman of the BAA, and Mike King, director of Heathrow.

Design with the personal touch

Although the new terminal 4 at Heathrow has been designed to take up to eight million passengers each year, its users will not be regimented or herded, and will not find the building claustrophobic, according to Mr Mike King, British Airports' Authority director of Heathrow.

"We have put a lot of design effort into the interior, recognizing that it is a very big building. People entering it will be able to see the airliners in which they are about to fly and while waiting they will be able to wander up and down the main concourse patronizing the shops and the catering facilities.

"They will be kept in touch with what is happening to their flight through the latest communications technology. I believe they will feel that they are being treated as individuals, and that they are not being processed in an anonymous way."

Terminal 4, said Mr King, provided a 25 per cent increase in the passenger capacity of Heathrow, and for the first time since Terminal 1 was built 16 years ago the authority had been able to design for very large aircraft, with up to 800 passengers at a time from the start. But even with the extra space that the new terminal would give, Heathrow would reach its design capacity of 38 million passengers a year by the end of the 1980s, and the authority continued to believe that expansion at Stansted was the way of providing future capacity.

The alternative proposition for a fifth terminal at Heathrow to take another 15 million passengers a year posed major problems of road and rail links with central London. Although the actual location of the site between the main runways at the western end of the airport was a good one, with 53 million passengers a year using Heathrow with a fifth terminal, and a government limit of air transport movements of 275,000 a year, it would mean that each aircraft using Heathrow would have to carry an average 193 passengers.

The facts and figures of internal competition

But the recent trend in the average number of passengers on board airlines at Heathrow had been downwards, Mr King said. In the year 1981-82, it was 115, in 1982-83, 110 and in 1983-84, 107. Because of the intense competition which had been allowed recently on the internal routes in Britain the average number of passengers on board domestic flights, using Heathrow had decreased from 73 in 1982-83 to 67 in the financial year just ended.

"There is an argument that future technology in aerospace will produce bigger and bigger aircraft carrying more and more people. But I cannot actually say that that will happen, and if the development of a fifth terminal at Heathrow is going to be dependent on that it will be taking a very big risk indeed."

A R

Space and time ... strictest of taskmasters

For the British Airports Authority, designers of the original concept of Terminal 4 and project coordinator, its management contractor, Taylor Woodrow Construction, and the architects for the terminal building, Scott, Brownrigg and Turner, the initial problem was how best to place the new construction on the one remaining readily-available site on an already-crowded airport.

Although the terminal building, its associated roads, and aircraft taxiways, were to cover 173 acres, the leeway in placing it was small due to the amount of room needed for the approach roads and the forecourt outside the front doors, and on the airside the need for the buildings, and the tails of the airliners using it (the fin of an 800-seater jumbo will stand 21 metres high) to be a stipulated distance away from the runways, for obvious safety reasons.

A long, low building angled so that it faces across the airport, its stands both at its front and behind it easily accessible to the airliners which will use it, was considered to be the answer. Because of the possibility that its bulk might interfere with Heathrow's radar, the height was kept down to 20 metres. But even then, sections of its cladding were moulded, rather than left smooth, to reduce radar "clutter" on the screens.

Even before work on the main project began, some £2m was spent on preliminary and temporary construction, including a two-storey office for 100 staff who formed the combined management team of the BAA, the management contractor, and the design consultants. A fully-equipped laboratory was built so that extensive inspection and testing to make sure that works were carried out in accordance with specifications could be done on site, while a compound constructed for the management contractor's supervisory staff and sub-contractors' site offices has canteen and other facilities for 1,500 men.

Rain free and double glazed

At the moment of topping out, the building, with its steel frame on concrete foundations, is complete, as is the main roof, which is waterproofed by asphalt covered with an insulation material, and protected by paving slabs and ballast. The wall cladding, incorporating aluminium-faced, acoustic, and thermal-insulation panels, protected by aluminium rain screens and double-glazed units, is approaching completion.

Erection of the baggage-handling system, and the installation of 29 lifts, 15 escalators, 500 metres of passenger walkways, and 2,000 metres of baggage conveyors is under way.

A new 1,320-metre taxiway for aircraft was completed at the end of 1982, and the first phase of providing new parking aprons for airliners is complete. Work on the second phase continues, with concrete up to 500mm thick being laid to withstand the weight of fully-loaded jumbo jets of 350 tons.

Work on the new road system began in early 1982 and was completed in August, 1983, when construction of a link road to the cargo tunnel, which will connect Terminal 4 with the central area, began.

The shell of the new station for the London Underground railway has been completed beneath the terminal, having been started in July, 1982. Above the station is a short-term, multi-storey car park, with spaces for 1,150 cars, and the construction of this is under way. The driving of the tunnels to the underground link – a loop beneath the airport connecting the existing line from the Heathrow central station through the new station, and back to Hatton Cross – began early in 1983, and has been completed.

The tunnelling was carried out by Taylor Woodrow in a joint venture with Thyssen under a contract with the London Transport Executive.

Of the £200m that the entire project will cost, £73m is for building works, £54m for civil engineering works, £55m for mechanical and electrical engineering works, and £18m for the provision and maintenance of all temporary works, site services, and site establishment costs. By the spring of this year, sub-contract orders to the value of £146m had been placed, of which £37m were complete. About 90 per cent of sub-contracts have been awarded, and the value of work done is £80m.

Tight control over budget

Mr Tony Westbrook, BAA general manager, Terminal 4, said: "From the outset, the general management team was conscious of two primary constraints – space and time. Heathrow is a relatively small area, and the construction of this large building had to be achieved without interrupting the day-to-day operations of the airport.

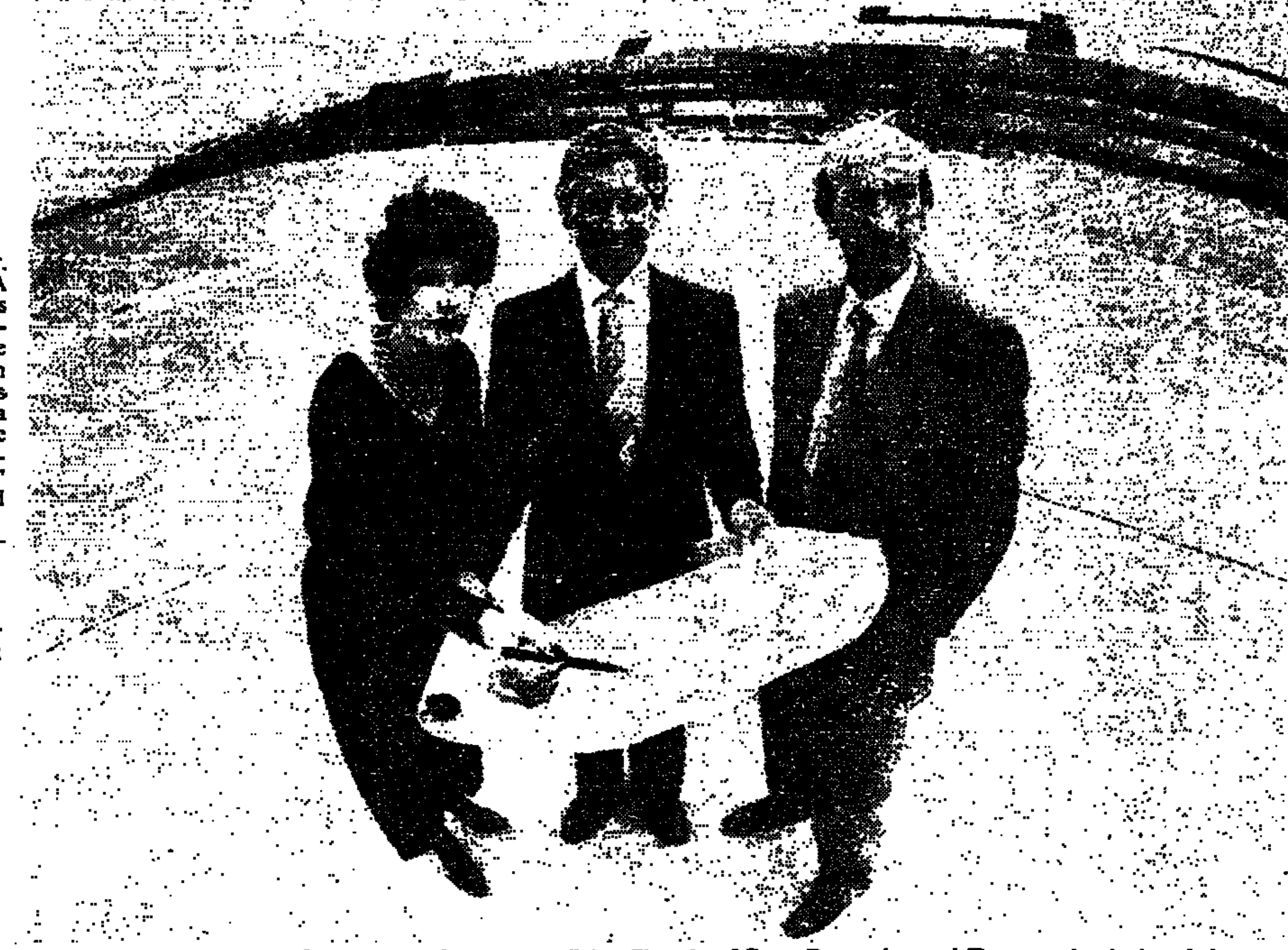
"Secondly, it was essential that the project should proceed according to a tight programme. Not only does airport demand impose targets, but in inflationary times, to exceed the time is to exceed the budget."

BAA throughout kept tight control on the budget, employing Davis, Belfield and Everest, chartered surveyors, to prepare a detailed cost plan. The authority says that to date the entire project is on time and on cost.

BP Oil is nominated as engineering consultant to carry out the design, construction, and commissioning of the fuel hydrant systems at Terminal 4, and the company has calculated that fuel demand when the new terminal is operating at peak capacity could be as much as 5,000 gallons per minute. The underground system will receive fuel from a remote storage and pumping system, and sophisticated control valves at each aircraft stand will deliver fuel under pressure into the aircraft via a dispenser vehicle.

One of the major projects to be completed early on was the construction of the environmental earthworks protecting houses near the Terminal 4 site, and which also carries the spur road which brings traffic over the main A30 into and out of the terminal. This new vista of low hills which has sprung up on the south side of the airport has now been planted with hundreds of trees, the landscape experts making sure that the varieties chosen were those which do not produce berries, so that the bird population – a potential safety hazard to aviation – will not be increased.

Arthur Reed


"Airside" architects: Ann Gibson, Ken Gilham and John Church, of Scott Brownrigg and Turner, who designed the new Terminal 4 building in the background.

Facelift likely at Terminal 3 as pressure eases

The pattern of airline usage between London's three airports is set partly by history and partly by Government edict, and the opening of Terminal 4 next year, despite its huge size – 80m passengers a year through an area as big as 40 soccer pitches – will have little effect on it.

Heathrow is the main airport for scheduled services with all but a tiny fraction (Concorde charters and special one-off charter flights as for bands and football teams) of its 27m passengers a year arriving and departing on scheduled flights. Of these 22.5m were on international flights (European and longhaul) and 4.5m domestic.

Gatwick is the main airport for charter traffic with 7.7m of its 12.7m passengers on holiday flights, mostly to Europe. Of the 5.0m scheduled passengers, about 1.0m were on domestic flights, and the remainder largely European and American. Its leading airlines are British Caledonian, Britannia, Dan Air, British Airtours, Air Europe, Cathay Pacific, People Express, Delta, and American.

Stansted too handles mainly charter flights, with only 40,000 of its 360,000 passengers on scheduled flights last year; and all but 12,000 flying to and from abroad. Its main airlines are Air UK, Jersey, and Genair, and a variety of charter firms.

Within Heathrow itself, though, the effect on traffic movement will be profound, if, as expected, the new terminal is occupied mainly by British Airways long-haul (and to a lesser extent short-haul) flights, and by a small number of foreign airlines.

By removing the biggest user, BA, Terminal 4 will provide massive relief at Terminal 3 and that will be its biggest effect. Terminal 4 will allow long-haul traffic at Heathrow to continue to grow, and the benefits will by no means be confined to BA passengers. Once BA is out of the way, the British Airports Authority propose to start on a massive £50m facelift at Terminal 3.

Additionally, BA are expected to take a small number of European services – Paris, Amsterdam for example – to Terminal 4, providing relief at Terminal 1; and a small number of European airlines may be able to move across too, providing relief at Terminal 2. The selection of short-haul routes BA decide to move across will obviously be those with the highest rate of interline, giving BA something like the ease of interlining KLM enjoys at the single-terminal Schiphol; and increasing the competitiveness of the British airline and airport in a number of long-haul routes.

Although Terminal 4 will be far more spacious and attractive for passengers, it is not entirely without drawbacks so far as airlines are concerned. It is the first to be built *outside* the main runways, which means that not all aircraft will be able to taxi straight from runway to terminal. Some will have to taxi across one runway to reach another; and this will inevitably create problems both for airlines and air traffic controllers, though the resultant loss of airport capacity is expected to amount to only one flight out of 142 every two hours.

Terminal 4 was so much and so obviously needed that it slots in quite naturally to the pattern of an expanding overcrowded airport; and it is perhaps pertinent to look at what might have happened without it.

The existing terminals would have run out of capacity within a year, and with foreknowledge of this greater effort would no doubt have been expended on bringing forward the second terminal at Gatwick, now scheduled for completion in 1988.

But the implied shift of traffic from Heathrow to Gatwick if Terminal 4 had not been built would be far from easy to carry out as has already been demonstrated. In an earlier round of discussions in the late 1950s, attempts were made to relieve Heathrow by moving Gatwick airlines serving countries which were thought to have the smallest proportion of interline traffic and therefore least need of Heathrow: notably Canada, Spain, and Portugal. But the airlines and countries concerned objected vociferously, and under fear of retaliatory action the Government backed down, leaving only BA's Iberian services in the shift – something they have continued to complain about ever since, as it cost them a substantial share of the business traffic. But if Terminal 4 relieves the problem of terminal capacity at Heathrow it does not affect the main constraint there which is runway capacity.

The limit of 275,000 on flights to be imposed next year on completion of Terminal 4 is mainly for environmental reasons, but it is also a reflection of runway capacity. While Terminal 4 will allow airlines to fly new services into Heathrow, shortage of runway capacity means they will not be able to get the "slots" they want, and the flights will often have to be at other than ideal times for the airline.

Michael Baily
Transport Editor

● The present pattern at Heathrow is for the newest Terminal 1 to be used by British Airways for both its domestic and short-haul flights (Europe and north Africa) and by a number of other domestic airlines: British Midland, Brymon, Air Ecosse, Aer Lingus, Dan Air, and Genair.

The next newest, Terminal 3, is used for long-haul flights by British Airways (including Concorde), Pan American, TWA, Japan Air Lines, Air Canada, Egyptair, El-Al, Gulf, Malaysian, Middle East, Nigeria, Singapore, Qantas, South African, Thai, and a host of others.

The oldest, Terminal 2, is used for European and North African flights by airlines other than BA: Aeroflot, Air France, Alitalia, Finnair, Iberia, KLM, Lufthansa, Olympic, Sabena, Swissair, etc. Of these by far the most crowded for some years has been Terminal 3, where lack of capacity has led to serious overcrowding and discomfort for long-haul passengers, and to curtailment in long-haul services.

Slots for traveller and environment

With facilities ready to handle eight million international passengers a year when it opens in October, 1985, the new Terminal 4 at Heathrow is itself larger than any of the other airports in Britain, with the exception of the second London airport at Gatwick, and many of the major airports abroad.

For comparison, during the 1982-83 financial year, Zurich handled 7.9m international passengers, Tampa, Florida, 7.7m, Singapore 7.5m, Vancouver 7.3m, Stockholm's two airports at Arlanda and Bromma 7.2m, and Dusseldorf 7.1m. Among those which just exceed the 8.0m figure are, Schipol, Amsterdam, which has pretensions to becoming the third airport for London.

When the entire capacity of the three existing terminals is taken into account, Heathrow is already the busiest international airport in the world, and its visible trade in both cargo and passengers is a staggering £13bn a year, which is 75 per cent of the trade through all British airports, and 12 per cent of that through airports and seaports combined.

The reasons why Heathrow has become so popular with airlines, their passengers, and cargo shippers, and why, in 1983, 22m of the 27m travellers who passed through were on overseas journeys are many, but two stand out.

Unpopular with the customers

Established when a new era of air travel took off immediately after the end of the Second World War, when environmental pressures on the setting up of such facilities were unknown, Heathrow is 15 miles from the centre of one of the greatest tourist and business "honey pot" cities of the world.

Since 1946, planners throughout the world have tried to impose a new trend of airports on the aviation industry – airports such as Dulles, Washington, Narita, Tokyo, and Mirabel, Montreal, 30, 40, even 50 miles away from the city they are designed to serve.

Each of these three mentioned is largely unpopular with its customers, and particularly with the airlines, whose advanced planning is usually done on a short-term basis, and who prefer to remain at their old and overcrowded suburban bases, such as Heathrow, where they have amassed large investments in fixed assets such as maintenance bases, catering centres, and headquarters offices.

Secondly, Heathrow lies at the centre of the world of civil aviation, a convenient jumping off and interchange point for services west to north America, central America, the Caribbean, and south America, to the continent of Africa lying directly to the south, to Europe to the immediate east, to Australia which generates such strong family traffic, and to the middle and far east.

Terminal 4, with its futuristic facilities and wide-open spaces, can only increase the attractiveness of Heathrow to the airlines and those they serve, but this enhancement is likely to produce new problems. As is indicated elsewhere in this inset, the airport already butts against the Government-imposed limit of 275,000 air transport movements a year, and other restrictions inhibit the freedom to operate of the airlines.

For a number of years now, airlines starting new services from abroad have been diverted to Gatwick on the basis that the house is full at Heathrow. But the second London airport is now also approaching saturation, with 12.6m passengers using it in the most recent 12-monthly period, only 3.4m below its current limit.

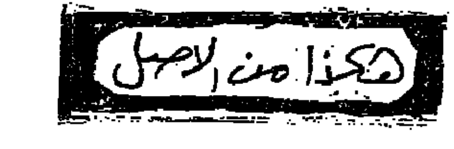
Obtaining take-off "slots" at times of day acceptable to the passengers is becoming increasingly difficult for the airlines at both Heathrow and Gatwick. From January 1, 1986, Britain is bringing in new noise regulations at its major airports which is forcing the operators either to buy new or second-hand airliners of the latest generation with quiet engines, to refit their old aircraft with quiet engines, or to have the existing engines sound-proofed.

In this situation, airlines operating small airliners, which, although they carry only between 30 and 70 passengers, still take up the same amount of runway and air-traffic control space as a 400-seater jumbo, are inevitably coming under pressure. Most charter flights have already been forced out to Gatwick and Stansted, and the Government has recently floated the idea of a £15 tax on every domestic service using Heathrow – a proposal which infuriated the airlines.

Even though on many mornings of the year, one tenth of the world's entire fleet of 400 Boeing 747s may be seen lined up around the piers of Terminal 3 at Heathrow, having just completed their overnight journeys from points across the world, the average passenger load of airliners using the airport is still little more than 100.

With its 22 new stands, each capable of handling jumbo-jet loads, Terminal 4 is designed to raise this average figure significantly by encouraging airlines to bring larger and larger groups of people in and out in single aircraft, so easing the pressure on the airport's runways, where landings and take-offs already go on at the rate of one each minute at peak times.





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Grundy

EIGHTEEN YEARS AGO WE LAID OUR FOUNDATIONS.

THIS STONE WAS LAID BY
THE RT. HON. NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP.
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT
ON THE OCCASION OF THE
TOPPING OUT OF TERMINAL 4 AT HEATHROW
25TH MAY 1984

In 1966, we came to a decision.

Not only would we make a profit, but we'd plough every penny we made back into the business.

It's a policy that's paid off.

Our new terminal at Heathrow has been paid for out of our own pocket.

Not the taxpayer's.

What's more, it's on schedule. (No mean feat, when you consider that it's one of Europe's biggest building projects.)

So when the Right Honourable gentleman tops out our new terminal, you can bet your Wellington boots on one thing.

It hasn't cost you a bean.



THE WORLD'S MOST SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SYSTEM

HEATHROW–GATWICK–STANSTED–GLASGOW–EDINBURGH–PRESTWICK–ABERDEEN

HEATHROW

Fig trees and the freedom to relax in comfort

Out go long departure tunnels, in come a room with a view and passenger convenience

Passengers arriving at Terminal 4, whether outbound from cars, buses, or underground railway, or inbound off the aircraft, will find that a considerable effort has been made by the airports authority, its architects, and planners, to humanize the immense extent of the new building.

The BAA has gone so far as to retain a landscape specialist with the task of making the interior bloom, and he proposes to introduce, among others, plants in the *Ficus*, or fig group. These will be imported from Florida and nurtured in greenhouses before being introduced to the terminal. And in the terminal, they will be in pots of a pyramidal shape so that passengers will not be able to use them as rubbish bins.

Apart from a one-in-20 slope up from the underground station there are virtually no inclines anywhere in Terminal 4, and it will be possible to push the ubiquitous BAA luggage trolley for far longer distances without hindrance than in any of the three older Heathrow terminals

Each of these terminals was determined before the self-help trolley became fashionable in air travel.

The latest trends in air travel

Terminals 1, 2, and 3 also date from the more-relaxed days of civil aviation before security checks, and the complicated apparatus needed to scan travellers and their luggage has had to be grafted on.

In Terminal 4, all of the latest trends in air travel have been designed from the start of the project, with the result that on entering the front doors of the building the passenger will pass quickly through centralized check-in (where he will divest himself of his heavy luggage at one or 64 desks), centralized passport control, and centralized security, before spilling into the vast departure concourse which is such a major feature of the new building.

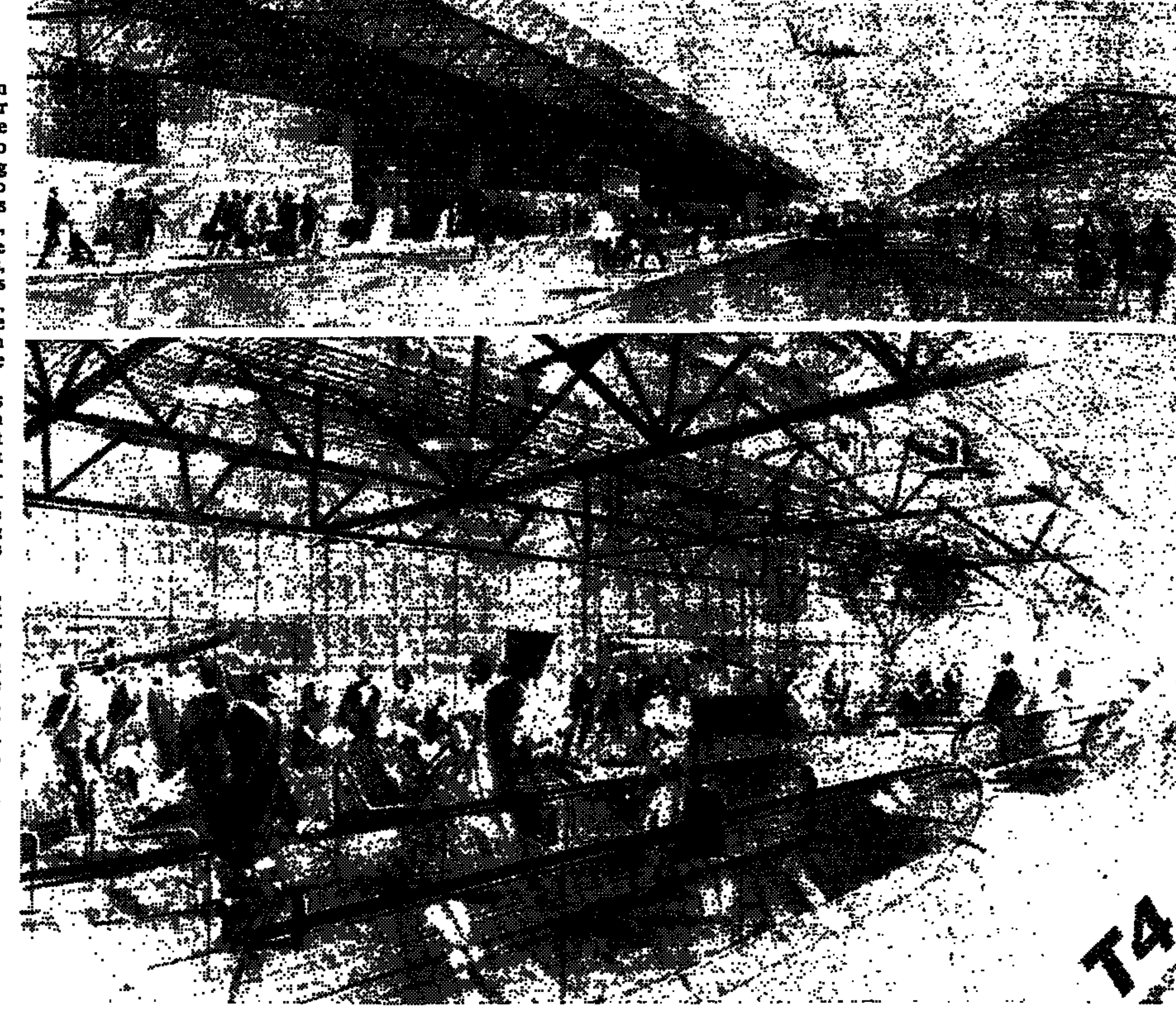
This concourse measures 650 metres by 250 metres – or four times as long as the National Gallery – in one unbroken sweep, and while waiting for their flights to be called the passengers will be able to wander its length, using moving walkways to reach the two extremes, rest on groups of seats around the exits to the aircraft, patronize duty-free and tax-free shops, restaurants, cafeterias, and bars, or survey the airliners which they are shortly to board, which will be nose-on to the extensive windows which form the walls of this giant departure lounge.

Having all the passengers together in one large area such as this marks a significant departure from previous airport planning, which favoured aircraft loads being brought forward into final departure lounges, often entailing long walks down gloomy tunnels, as take-off time approached.

Using the single concourse, with boarding directly from it into the airliners through air bridges, the airports authority was able to save space on a constricted site, and give those travelling a more pleasant, relaxed, and individualistic place in which to wait. Passengers will be encouraged to go through to the concourse as soon as possible after arriving, a movement which will do no harm to the sales of duty-free goods, from which the BAA derives around half of its total annual income.

Mr Ken Gillam, of Scott, Brownrigg and Turner, architects of the new terminal, said: "We wanted the public to find it a simple terminal to use, and we believe that it will be the easiest airport terminal ever to find your way through. During the design process, we spent a lot of time at airports around the world, watching the reactions of the people using them, right down to those who have to clean them.

"We tried to look at it as if we were families of people about to go on airliners, bearing in mind that there are a lot of new passengers every year, and that for many it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We think that they will not consider that they are being corralled, and that although large numbers of people will be handled there, they will still feel that they are individuals."



Things to come: impressions of the drop-off point for the new terminal, and the single departure lounge with its moving walkways and airliners at the window.

Arriving passengers will be kept completely separate from those departing, using the floor below, and being conveyed for part of the way to a central immigration area, and then to the baggage reclaim, on moving walkways. Luggage will arrive for collection on six carousels.

About one fifth of the 27m passengers who use Heathrow each year "interline" through the airport – that is, they use it as an aviation exchange point to leave one flight and join another. Siting Terminal 4 on the southern perimeter of the airport, while the other three are in the central area, separated by the airfield and its runways and taxiways, presents obvious difficulties, and an existing tunnel which connects the centre with the cargo area is to be used to transport exchange passengers, and their luggage.

The passengers will travel in a free shuttle coach service, an extension of one which plies at present between the three central terminals. According to the BAA, the time spent in the buses by interlining travellers is at present between three and seven minutes, and this should go up to between six and nine minutes when Terminal 4 enters operation.

The majority of passengers who complete their journeys at Heathrow will leave Terminal 4 by Underground (the station is to be called Heathrow Terminal 4, while Heathrow Central will have its name changed to Heathrow Terminals 1, 2 and 3), or by road – parking space for 3,000 cars is being provided by way of a new flyover joining the terminal to the A30 road.

Although no firm decisions have yet been taken, it seems almost certain that the BAA will embark on a major refurbishing project in Terminal 3, involving particularly check-in and baggage handling, and the authority is already talking with airlines to this end.

Arthur Reed

Future of UK aviation under intense debate

As the fitting-out trades move into the completed shell of Terminal 4 to meet the target date of commissioning in October next year, a grand debate over the entire future of British civil aviation, including the long-term use of the new terminal and Heathrow airport, is becoming intense.

The most important impact on the airport in the medium term will be that made by the report of the Government-appointed inspector who sat for 18 months from the autumn of 1981 hearing evidence on the plan by the British Airports Authority to expand Stansted so that it could take up to 15m passengers a year, with the implication that in the longer term that annual figure could be increased to as much as 50m.

Several alternatives to the Stansted proposition were floated at the time of the inquiry, but the only serious one remaining is that favoured strongly by British Airways, which is to develop the site of the Perry Oaks sludge works at the western end of Heathrow with a fifth terminal.

BA's espousal of the Terminal 5 case is understandable, as it sees as wildly uneconomic the splitting of operations away from its main base at Heathrow into two other airports, at Stansted and Gatwick. The airline also considers that in spite of the completion of the M25 London orbital road, due shortly, linking all three airports, there would be extensive problems facing interlining passengers.

The British Airports Authority continues to be deeply opposed to Terminal 5, and supportive of the case for a third London airport at Stansted. Any further growth at Heathrow would, argues the authority, place an impossible burden on the runway system and the local environment, while where would a site be found within the Home Counties for a new sewage farm within the time scale necessary?

The controversy about figures

Every party involved in the continuing controversy has its own set of figures forecasting the growth of civil aviation through the London airports complex. The pro-Stansted lobby considers that existing space will be exhausted before the turn of this century. Those in favour of more expansion at Heathrow consider that with the recent reduction in the rate of growth in air traffic due to the recession, and the arrival on the world airline scene of more and more wide-bodied airliners, the question of an overflow airport can be postponed.

At the same time as this debate goes on, the whole future of the BAA, which runs not only the three big London airports, but also four in Scotland, is in the political melting pot. The Government has made it clear that it sees the authority, which has an extremely successful profit record, in the list of candidates for privatization.

The addition of Terminal 4 to the assets of the BAA can only make the authority even more attractive to potential investors. But the BAA's long-term planning must remain bedevilled by not knowing when, and exactly how, it is to be sold off, although some small enlightment came in evidence to a Commons select committee earlier this month from Mr Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, when he indicated that Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted will not be fragmented by being sold as separate units. But the rest of the options stay open, and include, to sell the BAA as an entity, to introduce private capital and management by the sale of assets, or through franchizing.

Meanwhile, British Airways, the main user of Heathrow, and the prospective majority user of the new Terminal 4, is itself moving rapidly towards privatization – possibly as soon as the spring of next year – and is being assailed by one of the main UK independents, British Caledonian Airways, which wants a significant share of its routes and equipment. It is a case which is being robustly resisted by BA.

The Civil Aviation Authority, itself the subject of a recent searching organization and methods survey, is currently making a deep review of civil aviation in Britain, and the claims and counter-claims of the airlines for bigger shares of the aeronautical cake are part of this. An interim report, saying little, was issued recently. The main conclusions are expected to go to Government later this year.

The entire industry is plainly in a state of upheaval, and to the uncertainty that such a state engenders must be added the strong tide towards cheaper air fares which continues to reach out to Europe following deregulation of prices in the United States. Government has indicated its desire to reduce fares between Britain and Europe, but is having a hard time convincing partner governments in the EEC of the wisdom of such a policy.

Against such a background, it might be thought foolhardy for the British Airports Authority to invest £200m in the development of Terminal 4, and a further similar sum in a second terminal at Gatwick. But the authority is correct to be so farsighted, for whoever owns the airports and the airlines which use them in the future will make no difference to the urge to travel felt by the human race.

In the business sector, a growing number of international companies will produce growing needs for executives to shuttle about the world.

And in leisure, greater earning power, longer holidays, and earlier retirement, will mean the possibility of more and more people able to enjoy the pleasure of foreign holidays, when only a generation ago they aspired to an annual fortnight on one of their own country's coasts.

The limiting factors to such expansion will be the facilities on the ground, rather than in the air – where important advances are already being introduced, such as quieter and more-efficient engines.

The sky remains a big place, and it is the hotels, the roads into the big cities, and the terminals at the airports which will become choked first. Terminal 4, whoever will be its landlord in the long-term, goes some way towards postponing that day, whenever it comes in the distant future. In the shorter term, it is providing for 1,000, and is spreading £200m worth of work around British industry. Now the aviation industry planners must concentrate their attention on what will supersede it for the year 2000 and beyond.

A R

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Markets destabilized by self-fulfilling prophecies

The immediate cause of falling gilt-edged and equity prices in London is the disarray in the American bond market. At the May 11 auction, dealers bought $4.75 billion of 3-year United States Treasury bonds only to discover they were virtually unsaleable. The new paper immediately shed $143m of its value and the market, in the words of Mr Thomas Strauss of Salomon Brothers, became "a shambles", inviting comparison with the "buyers' strike", that in the 1970s confronted the Labour Government in the gilt-edged market.

Strangely the United States bond market did recover after the horror of May 11, but only briefly. The United States Treasury is now faced with the prospect of having to offer still higher interest if it is to find enough buyers for the mass of papar it needs to sell on behalf of a deficit-ridden Administration. Collapsing bond values is one reason why Wall Street sees, or believes it sees, the facades of major American banks crumbling. The continuing rise in interest rates has a shuddering impact on the sovereign debt problem, in which the same banks are immersed up to their navels. Dearer money in New York draws capital from abroad and strengthens an already overvalued dollar (a process, however, that would become less inevitable if American banking dominoes start falling). It forces up interest rates everywhere, threatening a toxic fall-out over "real" economies, our own included.

Few people left the City early last night, as the market fall gathered speed. At six in the evening, traders were still dealing, or huddled over the TV screens, watching sterling tumble, as usual, in the cocktail hour. The general verdict was it is still too early to close bear positions.

If anything, the decline in prices is gathering speed, rather than slowing. Among the gilts, ultra-longs shed roughly two points yesterday, despite a mini-rally around 3.30pm. Stocks in the 1990s area fell 1½ points, and shorts declined by a point. Index-linked stocks may have lost as much as two points. In the words of one pundit, this category of debt is no longer functioning as a market.

Gilts, equities and the pound look to be trapped in a vortex, with the fall of one continually dragging down the other two.

When gilts are measured in yield terms, then the criterian of value is a cross-reference against other financial instruments. When price takes over, the market, is in disequilibrium. It is going up very quickly, or it is collapsing. When it falls, it is virtully impossible for the authorities to fund their debt. Crouching against the storm is very difficult from bending with the wind.

That is why attention yesterday was focused yet again on the fate of the tap stock, Treasury 9½% Convertible, four points below its issue price. With a front-end loaded PSBR, a commitment to raise £1½bn via British Telecom later in the year, and falling gilt and equity markets, the Budget programme begins to look shaky.

True, the Chancellor attempted some long-distance piano playing on the subject on Wednesday evening at the annual CBI dinner. The general message was one of breezy self-confidence, but the market, in its wisdom, seized on two key passages, and extracted a Wagnerian conclusion.

On page two of the speech, the Chancellor suggested that £m3 would run relatively high early on in the financial year, but finished well within the target range. Ignoring the later qualification the gilt market decided that the aggregates in the May banking month would be as awful as the superbears had suggested.

When the Chancellor analysed interest rates; markets heard only one line: "We cannot insulated ourselves entirely from events overseas." Decoupling is dead, and base rates are about to move up again was the conclusion.

The authorities will play their cards pragmatically. But if the current shakeout continues, the yield gap between interest rates and commercial paper will grow to unsustainable levels. Assuming yields count at some point, short-dated stocks are now discounting at least a one-pont rise in base rates back into double figures.

Crisis of confidence after Continental

Just when Continental Illinois appeared to be clawing back a degree of depostior confidence in the wake of the 7.5 billion US government-backed lifeboat operation, Wall Street has visited its worries on other American banks. Rumours circulated that another big American bank was in trouble because of problems with its bond portfolio, and then a third name was being mentioned. The liquidity crisis which afflicted Continental Illinois vividly highlighted how damaging such talk can be: when confidence diminishes prophecies become self-fulfilling.

As for Continental Illinois, finding a durable solution may well prove to be a lengthy process. Although it has been able to reduce sharply its reliance on overnight funding from the Federal Reserve System, which at one point reached about $4 billion, and is now reported to be contemplating a plan to shift bad loans into a separate company before seeking new capital for the existing bank, a merger must be the most likely outcome.

A number of suitors have been mentioned. Chemical Bank admits to having had a team in Chicago looking into the books, but says: "It is premature to speculate what our interest might be". Citicorp is reported to have received financial information from Continental's investment bankers Goldman Sachs while First National Bank of Chicago is also keeping a close eye on developments.

The problems are immense. First there are the obstacles imposed by state banking laws. Then there is the question of whether the US authorities will help out by taking out some of Continental's bad loans, which may well be a *sine qua non* for any bid.

Fraser blazes trail in financial services

The proposed link between House of Fraser and Mr Mark Weinberg's Allied Hambro is an important milestone in the development of financial services in this country, whether or not Lonrho manages to disrupt the project. The notion of selling financial products, including possibly stocks and shares, through department stores is still derided in certain quarters of both the City and the retail trade, partly because it has been tried before without success.

One point which will not have escaped the retailers' notice is that the level of business in personal finance, which is much wider than share buying, is liable to fluctuate with the public's disposable income and view of the future. This, along with the desire to spread overheads, will lead them toward as wide a range of products as possible. An area which has so far been only nibbled at is property. As House of Fraser is blazing one trail, there is a growing expectation that Lloyds Bank's chain of estate agencies, Black Horse, is likely to form the nucleus of a diverse financial services high street chain.

Plessey urging monopolies check for Thorn-BAe link

By Ian Griffiths

Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, yesterday strongly criticized the proposed merger between Thorn EMI and British Aerospace. He made it clear that he would like to see the link up referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the grounds of industrial logic and the national interest.

Speaking at Plessey's annual meeting in London he said: "The merger is neither logical or professional. If it went through without reference to the Monopolies Commission I would be very disappointed."

Sir John also highlighted the clear interest the Government has in the proposed merger by way of its 48.3 per cent stake in British Aerospace. Mr Norman Lamont, the Trade and Industry Minister, has said that the Government's attitude is neutral and that it would not use its shareholding to block the merger.

The Government's stake is worth about £320m at present prices and Sir John said: "If the issue is to be determined on purely financial grounds and the Treasury wishes to take out its 48 per cent then it will do so. It represents the distinct line between responsible interventionism and purist capitalism."

He denied however, that Plessey would itself be making a bid for Brish Aerospace. "We have never comtemplated such a step," he said. "However, we are looking at the implications of such a possibility (of the merger with Thorn EMI) as it might affect our commercial interest."

The main impact of the merger would be in the area of defence and communications where Plessey has extensive interests. Although he would not be drawn publicly on the commercial repercussions, privately Sir John does not believe these would have a significant effect on his company's business.

The Office of Fair Trading is examining the proposed merger and will report within the next few weeks on whether it should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

In the wake of the announcement of the proposed merger there has been speculation within the City that another suitor might be waiting in the side lines for British Aerospace

If the merger did go ahead it would produce the fifteenth largest quoted company in Britain with a market capitalization of about £1,600m, employing 160,000 people.

Yesterday, Plessey unveiled its own results for the year to March 30, 1984, which revealed that the company had lifted its pretax profits from £146.4m to £176.1m. Turnover also increased from £1,074.8m to £1.219m.

Telecommunications intersts remain by far the biggest part of Plessey's activities. More than half the profits are generated in this area.

Shareholders have been rewarded with a final dividend of 2.24p, which will be paid two months earlier than usual on November 1. Coupled with the interim dividend this makes a total dividend of 3.801p for the year an increase of 15.1 per cent.

Tempus, page 21

Jeffrey Sterling: refused to be drawn on strategy

Sterling raises stake in P & O

By Jeremy Warner

Sterling Guarantee has strengthened its links with P & O (Peninsular & Orient Steam Navigation Company) in recent months by lifting its share stake from 3 per cent to 4 per cent.

The enlarged holding, worth £17.2m at yesterday's price for P & O shares, was confirmed by Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of both companies, when he announced record pre-tax profits for Sterling Guarantee yesterday.

The property and industrial group's profits for the year ended March 24 leapt to £16.5m from £8.7m the year before.

The results were much better than had been anticipated in the stock market, but the company's share price was overshadowed by the collapse in the market generally. It finished the day 1p lower at 49p.

The profits do not include the £5.3m gain the group made last year by selling properties and investments, including its 3 per cent stake in BET. This figure has been added directly to reserves.

Underlining the group's return to financial health after the heavy losses of the 1970s, a final dividend of 0.675p is to be paid, raising the total by nearly a half from 0.7p to 1p.

Mr Sterling refused to be drawn on whether his company intended to further increase its share stake in P & O, which is under threat of a renewed bid from Trafalgar House. But he did say: "If there was any strengthening of the relationship between P & O and Sterling Guarantee, it would only take place if it was in the interests of both sets of shareholders."

MPs call for early ruling on gas deal

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The Government has beer asked to make a prompt announcement on whether it will approve or veto the British Gas Corporation's controversial plan to buy £20 billion worth of gas from the Sleipner field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea.

The all-party Commons Energy Committee, in a report published yesterday, said: "It would be most unsatisfactory if the proposed deal were to fall through solely as a result of administrative delay rather than because of a deliberate policy decision by the Government."

The Treasury opposes the deal because of its effect on the British balance of payments. The Department of Energy thinks gas fields in the British Sector of the North Sea should be exploited.

British Gas says that it needs the Norwegian gas to replace supplies from existing Norwegian fields and that it has given an assurance that is will buy any gas found in the British sector

The Norwegian Parliament has indicated that unless the British Government approves the contract by mid-June, the Norwegian state oil company will pull out of negotiations.

The Energy Committee report says: "It is difficult to justify the manner in which the contract appears to have been subjected to last minute scrutiny by the Government. We believe the Government's decision must be justified."

The committee has also criticized the Treasury and Department of Energy for refusing to give evidence at its hearings into the contract.

Oil blocks on offer

The Energy Minister, Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, has announced details of the 195 offshore blocks which are to be offered by the Government in the ninth round of offshore oil licences.

Cash tenders will be invited for 15 of the blocks in the Northern area of the North Sea where considerable oil finds have already been made. The other 180 will be awarded on a discretionary basis by the Department of Energy.

The closing date for applications will be noon on December 17 this year. Thirty six blocks are in the deep water areas of Rockall and the Faroes Trough, 67 in the central area of the North Sea, 61 in the Southern North Sea and Morecambe Bay, and 31 in West Shetland and the English Channel.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said yesterday: "The ninth round provides the opportunity to encourage the generation of UK-based technology."

Camputers prepares statement

By Philip Robinson

Camputers Holdings, maker of the Lynx microcomputer, has instructed Hacker Young, the accountant, to call a creditors' meeting for June 8 at which a statement on the company's financial affairs will be read. A shareholders' meeting is planned shortly before the meeting.

Less than a year ago Camputers raised £900,000 after expenses, placing 6.4 million shares at 17p each, valuing the company at £4.3m. The company, which gained agreement in principle for its shares to be quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, uses instead the 163 (2) facility where bargains need Stock Exchange permission and which only match buyers with sellers.

Making the market is the stockbroker, Statham Duff Stoop, which also placed Camputers shares privately last June. The firm said then that the issue was oversubscribed and was snapped up in two days.

Mr Richard Greenwood, former managing director and the largest single shareholder, said yesterday: "It is not our line that this will be a voluntary liquidation".

Sources close to the company suggest that it is working hard on some form of buy-out solution involving the Lynx computer.

Small rise in investmen[t]

Britain's manufacturers [in]creased their investment s[pend]ing by a modest 1.5 per c[ent in] the first quartet after a ju[mp of] 8 per cent in the pre[vious] months. The latest rise, t[hough] small, suggests the long-aw[aited] revival in manufacturing i[nvest]ment is definitely unde[r way] after reaching a nadir last y[ear].

In the six months to M[arch] investment was 9.5 per [cent] higher than six months ea[rlier]. The Confederation of B[ritish] Industry expects an increa[se of] 7 per cent this year over las[t].

STOCK EXCHANGE

FT-SE 100 Index: 1051.6 dow[n] 23.8 (high: 1074.6; low: 1051.6)
FT Index: 826.4 down 21.2
FT Gilts: 78.11 down 1.16
FT All Share: N/A
Bargains: 21,688
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 109.58 down 2.61
New York: Dow Jones Averag[e] (latest) 1103.85 down 9.95
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Ind[ex] N/A
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index up 10.85

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.3815 up 10pts
Index 79.5 unchanged
DM 3.7950 down 0.0050
FrF 11.66 down 0.0150
Yen 320 up 6.25

Dollar
Index 131.8 up 0.8
DM 2.7432 down 0.0166

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.3760
Dollar DM 2.7460

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.588541
SDR £0.749903

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9, 9¼
Finance houses base rate 9
Discount market loans week 8-7½
3 month interbank 9¾ - 9⅝

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11⁷⁄₁₆ - 11⁵⁄₁₆
3 month DM 6 - 5⅞
3 month Fr F 13½ - 13

US rates
Bank prime rate 12.50
Fed funds 10¹¹⁄₁₆
Treasury long bond 97¹⁵⁄₁₆ - 9[...]

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Ex[port] Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest pe[riod] April 4 to May 1, 1984 inclusiv[e] 8.934 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $375.30 pm $375.65
close $377.00 (£273)
New York (latest): $376.85
Krugerrand* (per coin): $389-390 (£281.50-282.50)
Sovereigns* (new): $88.25-89.25 (£64-64.75)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bank link call by societies

A building society central bank which would negotiate with the high street banks to obtain access to the clearing system is one of several radical proposals from Professor Jack Revell and Mr Brian Townley of the Building Societies Association.

Such a bank would free societies from their dependence for payment services upon organizations which were in direct competition, Mr Townley told the Association's annual conference at Harrogate, West Yorkshire.

● CATER ALLEN is to raise £9m through a one-for-three rights issue at 410p. Profits for the year to April 30, 1984 were £3.9m (£4.25m) and year-end assets totalled £1.41 billion (£1.1 billion). Tempus, page 21

● EXTEL GROUP plans a one-for-one scrip issue, and is to pay a 9p final dividend, making 12p (10p) for the year to March 31. The group made profits of £10.6m (£6m) on sales of £149.5m (£126m).

Tempus, page 21

● SHELL has again extended its $58 a share offer to buy out the minorty shareholding in its United States subsidiary, Shell Oil. Shell now has 94 per cent of the shares. The offer has been extended until next Wednesday.

● DONALD MACPHERSON, the Cover Plus paint group, has urged shareholders to accept takeover terms from Tikkurila, the Finnish paints group, rather than a rival bid from Yule Catto.

Stake in Harris for Debenhams

Debenhams will receive a "small stake" in Harris Queensway as part of the agreement which will establish a new joint company to operate carpet, furniture and electrical concessions in its 68 department stores.

The terms have been established and the agreement is expected on June 19.

Mr Philip Harris, said yesterday that he would not make a full bid for Debenhams.

Computers check dealing

New computer technology has allowed the Stock Exchange quotations committee to increase by four times the number of sharp share price movements it looked into last year. But only 20 merited being passed to the Department of Trade and Industry for further investigation.

Sharp rises in prices usually signal insider dealing. For the year to last March 13, 541 price movements were identified against 3,753 in 1982. 491 were investigated in detail compared with 87 the previous year.

Formal inquiries were authorized by the quotations panel into 59, of which 20 – two more than the previous year – were passed to the DTI, which is responsible for bringing prosecutions under the insider dealing sections of the Companies Acts.

The figures are part of the Stock Exchange's annual report, which says that it had another successfull year

Details of Japan-US currency package

Tokyo to loosen yen reins

From Sarah Hogg, Tokyo

The Reagan Administration and the Japanese Government have agreed details of the "yen-dollar" package to be published formally on Wednesday. Last-minute negotiations in Rome were delayed by drafting difficulties but ended late on Wednesday.

The package consists of what the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yashuhiro Nakasone, has called very bold guidelines for financial liberalization designed to meet American demand for the internationalization of the yen. It has four main themes:

● Greater flexibility of wholesale interest rates within Japan;

● The development of short-term monetary instruments available to foreigners;

● Greater opportunities for foreign institutions to compete for domestic financial business;

● Modest liberalization of the Euroyen market.

Greater access to yen instruments, the Reagan Adminstration argues, would tend to raise the exchange rate of the yen to a higher, free-market value. The Japanese Government, or at least the Bank of Japan, has a different but overlapping interest in liberalization, in that it needs new instruments and greater flexibility in order to finance its large budget deficit.

Present controls on short-term interest rates are being put under particular pressure by prices in the secondary bond market, which is relatively free, because the large number of 10-year government bonds issued in the mid-1970s are now close to maturity and competing with short-term instruments.

These twin pressures have led to the following list of measures being included:

● A reduction in the minimum maturity of certificates of deposit, together with reductions in the minimum size already agreed;

● The introduction of new short-term financial assets, notably money market accounts;

● Removal of some formal restrictions on foreign currency "swaps";

Permission for foreign banks to sell Japanese government bonds "over the counter";

● Permission for foreign banks to compete for domestic trust business;

● The creation of a bankers' acceptance market.

Those are all intended to be implemented, or put in train, within the year.

Japan has also agreed to study the creation of a treasury bill market, something the Bank of Japan is keen on, because it thinks it would improve monetary control. However, the Ministry of Finance is reluctant and determined not to change its policy of issuing treasury bills to the Bank of Japan well below market price.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Biggest fall for ten years

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 14. Dealings End, June 1. § Contango Day, June 4. Settlement Day, June 11
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

MONEY MARKETS

Clearing Banks Base Rate 9-9¼%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 8 Low 4

Week Fixed: 8-7½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9	2 months	8⅞
3 months	8²⁹⁄₃₂	3 months	8⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	8⅝-8½	1 month	9¼
2 months	9-8⅞	2 months	9⅜
3 months	9¹⁄₁₆-9¹⁄₁₆	3 months	9¹⁵⁄₁₆
6 months	9⅝-9⅝	6 months	10¼

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9¼-8⅞	7 months	9⅞-9½
2 months	9-9¼	8 months	9⅞-9½
3 months	9⅜-9⅝	9 months	10⅛-10⅛
4 months	9⅞-9½	10 months	10⅛-10⅛
5 months	9⅞-9½	11 months	10⅛-10⅛
6 months	9⅞-9½	12 months	10⅜-10⅛

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9¹¹⁄₁₆-8⁷⁄₁₆	6 months	9¹¹⁄₁₆-9⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	9⁷⁄₁₆-9⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	10⅛-10

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8	3 months	9⁵⁄₁₆
7 days	8	6 months	9½
1 month	8½	1 year	10¹⁄₁₆

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 7½-7¼ Close 8

1 week	8¼-7⅞	6 months	10¼-10⅛
1 month	8¹³⁄₁₆-8¹¹⁄₁₆	9 months	10½-10⅜
3 months	9¼-9⅛	12 months	10⅞-10½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %)

3 months 9⅝ 6 months 10¼

Finance House Base Rate 9%

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT and FORWARD RATES

	May 24 (day's range)	May 24 (close)	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.3735-1.3890	$1.3810-1.3820	0.26-0.27c disc	0.82-0.84c disc
Montreal	$1.7800-1.7925	$1.7900-1.7910	0.27-0.32c disc	0.94-1.01c disc
Amsterdam	4.2650-4.3000fl	4.2850-4.2950fl	1¼-⅞c prem	3⅛-3¼c prem
Brussels	77.00-77.50f	77.00-77.10f	15-22c disc	46-53c disc
Copenhagen	13.89-13.94k	13.90-13.91k	1¼-2¼ore disc	4⅞-6⅝ore disc
Frankfurt	3.7850-3.8100m	3.7900-3.8000m	1¼-⅞pfg prem	2⅞-2pfg prem
Lisbon	192.50-194.50e	193.75-194.25e	115-280e disc	360-780e disc
Madrid	212.20-213.50p	213.10-213.30p	90-115pst disc	315-345pst disc
Milan	2338.50-2348.00lr	2345-2347lr	11-14lr disc	36-39lr disc
Oslo	10.7650-10.8150k	10.7900-10.8000k	3⅛-4¼ore disc	8⅛-9⅞ore disc
Paris	11.6500-11.6900f	11.6550-11.6650f	3⅛-3⅞c disc	11⅛-13c disc
Stockholm	11.12-11.22k	11.20-11.21k	2⅛-2⅝ore disc	5-5⅝ore disc
Tokyo	317.50-321.50y	319.50-320.50y	⅞-½y prem	2⅛-2⅝y prem
Vienna	26.59-26.75sch	26.64-26.69sch	5-4gro prem	17-13⅞gro prem
Zurich	3.1200-3.1550f	3.1300-3.1400f	1⅛-1⅛c prem	4¼-3⅞c prem
Dublin	1.2335-1.2390p	1.2335-1.2350p	27-38p disc	86-101p disc

Effective exchange rate compared with 1975 was unchanged at 79.5.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.1120-1.1130
Singapore	2.1095-2.1110
Malaysia	2.3115-2.3135
Australia	0.9015-0.9025
Canada	1.2965-1.2970
Sweden	8.0750-8.0850
Norway	7.8150-7.8250
Denmark	10.04-10.05
West Germany	2.7425-2.7440
Switzerland	2.2655-2.2670
Netherlands	3.0870-3.0900
France	8.4400-8.4500
Japan	231.65-231.85
Italy	1690-1691
Belgium (Comm)	55.63-55.68
Hong Kong	7.8160-7.8170
Portugal	140-141
Spain	154.00-154.20
Austria	19.26-19.28

OTHER £ RATES

Australia	0.5338-0.5358
Bahrein	0.5160-0.5200
Finland	8.0060-8.0460
Greece	148.40-150.40
Hongkong	10.8130-10.8250
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4045-0.4085
Malaysia	3.1979-3.2031
Mexico	270-290
New Zealand	2.1383-2.1432
Saudi Arabia	4.8210-4.8610
Singapore	2.9184-2.9227
South Africa	1.7726-1.7762

EURO-$ DEPOSITS

(%) calls, 10¼-9¼; seven days, 10¹⁵⁄₁₆-10¹³⁄₁₆; one month, 10¼-10⅝; three months, 11⁷⁄₁₆-11⁵⁄₁₆; six months, 12⅛-12⅝.

Rates Supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

COMMODITIES

Fine Art's profits up again

By Jeremy Warner

Fine Art Developments, Britain's largest greeting cards company, yesterday announced a sharp recovery in its pretax profits for the year to the end of last March.

Rationalization of mail order catalogues, distribution and production helped to push pretax profits up to £3.4m, from a depressed £1.7m the year before on sales 21 per cent higher at £98.2m.

An unchanged final dividend of 1.9p is to be paid making a same again total for the year of 3p. Selective Paper Group, which was acquired in March for £13m, will make its first contribution to profits this year. In the year to the beginning of March, Selective made £2.1m at the pretax level.

The present year will also benefit from further rapid growth in the group's retailing arm, Early Learning. Last year, this specialist children's toys business made profits of over £500,000 and by the end of July it should have 90 outlets.

The group has already opened one store in Australia and is looking at the possibility of taking its retailing concept to the United States.

AE names managing director

By Andrew Cornelius

AE, the motor components and engineering group which was recently a takeover target for Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, yesterday announced the appointment of Mr William Everett as managing director.

The appointment of Mr Everett, who previously headed the cylinder components business, frees Mr Malcolm Norgate, his predecessor, to concentrate on reshaping AE's loss making car parts distributing operations.

Mr John Collyear, chairman of AE, said that a whole range of possibilities are being explored to unravel the problems.

Since the Monopolies Commission blocked the attempted takeover by GKN, AE has been involved in industry-wide negotiations with GKN, the Unipart car parts subsidiary of BL, Quinton Hazell and other leading parts distribution companies, which could lead to a merger of their activities.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9¼%
BCCI	9¼%
Citibank Savings	† 9¾%
Consolidated Crds	9¼%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9¼%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9¼%
Citibank NA	9¼%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

£4.4bn written off shares as index plummets 21.2 points

By Derek Pain and Michael Clark

Fears that the world is about to become engulfed in a major banking crisis rocked the London stock markets yesterday. The FT 30 share index crashed 21.2 points to 826.4 points – its biggest closing fall for more than 10 years. Government stocks slumped by more than £2 a time. Shares of the four high street clearing banks fell to their lowest levels for the year.

For the third day in succession shares and gilts had wilted in the face of persistent selling, by mid-afternoon the FT index was down 10.3 points. But then what little confidence existed evaporated as an array of rumours about more leading American banks in trouble swept Wall Street.

The transAtlantic banking community has been vulnerable since the hasty record rescue package was mounted for the once proud Continental Illinoise. But now the continental ripples are becoming waves and at least one leading US bank, Manufacturers Hanover, felt obliged to issue a denial that it faced unexpected problems.

At one time there were falls of more than three dollars among the top US banks.

In just three trading days the FT index has plunged almost 50 points. Until yesterday's late wave of selling on the US banking rumours, the market had been content to worry about such more mundane problems as the miners' strike higher intrest rates and the Gulf war.

With the flood of US rumours coming on top of these worries, the market was completely demoralized in late trading. There was not a buyern sight with even the usual smattering of bargain hunters frightened off.

Government stocks suffered acute punishment with falls throughout the list. The longs and inflation stocks lost up to £2 with the shorts faring a little better, falls of up to £1.

Among the high street banks **Barclays** fell 15p to 459p; **Lloyds** lost 21p to 518p; **Midland**, controlling the US Crocker Bank which is one of those roped in to mount the Continental support operation, lost 10p to 352p and **National Westminster** was lowered 28p to 594p.

The FT index has suffered bigger mid session falls. In 1981, at the time when American investment adviser Mr Joe Granville, was forecasting doom and gloom, it was slashed almost 30 points at a mid-day call-over.

The 1974 slump occurred, ominously, at the time of the last miners strike. The British secondary banking and property crisis, which subsequently sent the FT index down to below 150 points, was then just beginning to ravage the country's economic and financial structure.

Yesterday's FT index crash, which wiped more than £4,400m off equity values, is the second biggest closing fall ever, the sharpest was the March, 1974, decline which knocked 24 points off the index.

The market's discomfort extended to golds, normally havens at times of financial despair, although they recovered much of their falls towards the close as the fall steepened.

The bullion price rallied to close 75 cents down on the day at $377. Among the heavyweight gold producers, **American Gold** dipped $1¼ to $113¼, **Buffelsfontein** $½ to $59¼, after $59. **Bruban** unchanged at $29¼, after $28¾, and **Free State Geduld** $1 to $37½ after $36½. At the cheaper end, **Bracken** was unchanged at 313 cents after 300 cents, while **Deelkraal** lost 2 cents at 413 cents, after 410 cents, and **Elsburg** eased 10 cents at 390 cents before closing all square at 400 cents.

Comfort Hotels International shaded to 46p after the company announced a £7.8m rights issue convertible loan stock. Shareholders are being offered £1 of the new stock, carrying a 7½ per cent coupon, for every eight share held. Conversion starts in 1987 at an effective 51p a share.

The company, built up by ex-Grand Metropolitan man Mr Henry Edwards, is keen to expand and the cash will be used to reduce borrowings and for further growth.

Sandhurst Marketing, the office equipment group has in the words of chairman Mr Brian Hulme had "a cracking year", achieving record profits of £1,240,000 against £901,000.

The year's dividend is 17.15 per cent against 13.2 per cent. A one-for-one share bonus is planned.

The company is floating shares of its Spectra Automotive and Engineering Products in the USM next month. Details of the launch – and the Spectra contribution to Sandhurst profits – are expected to be announced next week.

Mr Hulme says: "Obtaining a separate quotation for Spectra is the logical step in Spectra's development which will give it further flexibility to expand its business and will assist it in taking advantage of the increasing market for its products".

For the present year Sandhurst should hit £1.8m – perhaps even £2m. The shares rose 8p to 158p.

The mini-brewery season rolled on with three regionals reporting higher profits but failing to impart much cheer to their shares.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, which last year made an unsuccessful bid for Davenports Brewery of Birmingham and is still thought to nurse acquisitive thoughts towards the company, recorded interim profits of just over £6m against £5,535,000 in the same period last year. The dividend is 2.55p (2.3p). About £13.8m (£12.5m) is the market guess for the full year. The shares fell 5p to 234p.

J. A. Devenish, the Weymouth-based business, was unchanged at 424p after interim figures of £200,000 against £125,000. Mid-term dividend is a same-again 2.25p a share. With its extensive exposure to the West Country holiday trade, Devenish earns must of its profits in its second half year. For the 12 months the market is going for £2.1m (£1.9m).

Young and Co's Brewery chipped in with full year's figures of £2,643,000 (£2,181,000). The year's dividend is up 1p a share to 5.5p. The two class of shares each slipped 5p.

Rio Tinto-Zinc fell 12p to 592p after Sir Anthony Tuke, chairman, said he expected current year's figures should be higher.

Yesterday's two newcomers both opened at a healthy premium in first time dealings on the Unlisted Securities Market. Microvitec, the computer and software and hardware group closely related to the accountancy trade, saw its shares open at 195p compared with the offer price of 180p. After advancing to 198p profit taking saw the price close at 190p – a premium of 10p.

Steel Burrill Jones, the Lloyds re-insurance group, also attracted support opening at 133p copared with the placing price of 110p. The shares later advanced to 140p, but closed at 131p – a premium of 21p.

The shares of Pauls and Whites, the malting and animal foods group, rose 7p to 253p yesterday on growing appreciation of the company's move into foods for people. The company has paid £6.5m for Telford Foods, which produces muesli breakfast cereals, packet soups and sauce mixes. Telford made profits of £503,000 in its last year. The takeover is expected to be the first of a number, which could make P and W an important force in the food industry.

Medic International, a privately owned medical recruitment group, has moved in on another USM-traded hospital company. It has picked up 7.1 per cent of Swindon Private Hospital (putting the shares up 10p to 115p) to go with its almost 20 per cent of London Private Health. That, just to make matters more confusing, is closely linked with an Australian medical group. Medic, which has suggested it should merge with LPH, has acquired its Swindon stake just as the hospital is due to open for its first patients.

Granada "A" shares remained a weak market as they dipped another 8p to 172p – for a fall on the week of 30p – as one large seller unloaded 600,000 shares at the 175p level. Reports of a possible rights issue persist, but the institutions say that his would hve to be preceded by an enfranchisement of the voting and non-voting shares before they would agree to underwrite such an exercise.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● MARTIN THE NEWSAGENT: Half-year to April 1, 1984. Turnover £77.29m (£74.66m). Pretax profit £2.9m (£2.68m). No interim dividend (2.4p).

● WEIR GROUP: Viscount Weir, chairman, told the annual meeting that a recent strike at a subsidiary will affect first-half profits. But some improvement in the full-year's profits is still likely.

● GENERAL ACCIDENT has bought 49 per cent of Autocrafts of Folkestone, Kent, a vehicle repairer. Price not disclosed.

● WALTER LAWRENCE: Mr John Redgrave, chairman, told the annual meeting that the board was confident of another satisfactory outcome to the current year.

● WM MORRISON SUPERMARKETS: Mr K. D. Morrison, chairman, told the annual meeting that the first-quarter's sales are showing an increase of more than 20 per cent. The board's plans, which call or a minimum capital expenditure of £9m this year, will create a high level of borrowings, which, in the short-term, will adversely affect profit.

● BISHOPGATE TRUST: Year to March 31, 1984. Total dividend 3.5p (same). Pretax revenue £1.37m (£1.36m).

● DERITEND STAMPING: Year to Feb. 29, 1984. Turnover £34.29m (£33.45m). Pretax profit £1.43m (loss of £213,000 last time). Total dividend 6p (5p). While the board believes that group will continue to make progress in 1984-85, this will depend on modest economic growth.

● GOMME HOLDINGS: Half-year to Jan. 27, 1984. Turnover £14.51m (£13.95m). Pretax profit £854,000 (loss of £489,000 last time). No interim dividend (same). Second half's profit will be lower than first's

● SECURICOR GROUP has formed a new holding company – Securicor Motor Holdings – incorporating its motor division subsidiaries.

● MINSTER ASSSETS: *Results for 1983. Group profit before tax and investment reserve transfer, £11.71m (£11.64m). Total dividend 5p (4.7p). Earnings per ordinary 25p share 11.01p (10.77p).*

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar had a nervous couple of hours at the close yesterday. It moved lower after falling bank shares on Wall Street indicated a new outbreak of worries there.

It was also not helped in European eyes by the vote to raise the debt limit $30bn. Dollar interest rates in London tended to rise, but as the London market was closing the Federal Reserve was releasing more cash into the market.

Dealers saw that as an indication that it did not want interest rates to rise.

The weakness of the dollar and the new attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf tended to help the pound. Mr Arthur Scargill's acceptance of a new invitation to talks with the National Coal Board may also have been a plus factor.

The pound closed at $1.3815, up 10 points on its overnight close in London. Early in the day it had been as low as $1.3742 and even lower in New York overnight when it had touched $1.3735.

The dollar was steadying after the London close and the pound slipped to $1.3753.

TEMPUS

Cater Allen sheds more light on new gilts scene

Cater Allen's surprise £9m rights issue would barely finance a top sales team at Britannia Arrow, but the issue, and the issues involved, are more complex than that. The move adds a further element to the evolving picture of the British gilts market in the late twentieth century. Every week the curtain rises a fraction on what looks like a carefully structured interior.

First Clive led the way by announcing that it was prepared to make a market in short gilts, and planned to join the Stock Exchange. Next, Gerrard & National said that it had no plans to link up with outside capital, and aimed to become a leading jobbing force in gilts after recruiting heavily.

Now Cater has taken the story a stage further by raising fresh capital via a rights issue. The move in itself is intriguing, since the Bank of England has in the past not allowed discount houses to increase their capital base in such a way, except in crisis times. The reason is quite simple. Discount houses work on capital multipliers, which applied to Cater's paltry £9m, could make the sum raised worth nearly £400m.

Not guilty in this case, says Cater. The cash has been raised by the holding company, not the discount house itself, it will finance the move into gilt-edged jobbing. Presumably the official view now is that the discount market is adequately capitalized.

But will £9m buy access to the Government's Broker, along with all the other gilts market makers? Again, only up to a point. The future shape of the market is still not clear, but under the new structure, it does look as if discretionary capital ratios will be applied to market makers. So the value of Cater's rights issue could still prove highly volatile, although perhaps not on the American scale. In New York broker dealers enjoy multipliers of 600.

Equally, it is clear that if London broker-dealers are to work with multipliers, then they may play specific roles in different areas of the market, given the tiered structure of current ratios.

In a flash, so to speak, this explains why on the one hand, some discount houses have teamed up with larger houses. They presumably will trade in longer dated stock, using the capital backing.

On the other, specialization in the market, using multipliers, will preserve liquidity, a vital function of the short dated gilt market. Liquidity, theoretically, had been jeopardized by the withdrawal of the building societies, after the Chancellor's CGT tax imposition.

Cynics will now ask whether discount houses in their brave new world will be allowed to go broke. Cater Allen has an answer to that, too. In a tricky year, operating profits, at £3.9m, were only fractionally down on 1982/83. The book is still very short. And, finally, although banks have been torpedoed on leasing and international loans, Cater Allen has avoided both pitfalls. The shares fell 5p yesterday to 498p.

Plessey

Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey, made it quite clear yesterday that he did not want the speculation surrounding his company's intentions with regard to British Aerospace to cloud the preliminary statement of the annual results. He had a degree of justification. The figures are impressive to say the least.

The text for the day was *investment*. Plessey spent £83m on fixed assets, £95m on marketing and £66m on private ventures. The trend is set to continue, but it could pose some difficulties at the after-tax level bearing in mind the changes which will be introduced to the corporate tax system.

It is not a point which has escaped Plessey's attention and the finance team has been busy assessing the implications. The effective tax rate fell in 1983/84 from 41.4 per cent to 34.9 per cent, largely as the result of the high levels of investment in plant and equipment and the reduction in basic rate corporation tax to 50 per cent.

The removal of stock relief adds another 3.7 per cent to th effective tax rate at a stroke. *Taking this year's results and* applying the tax rates and allowances, which will be in effect when corporation tax is down to 35 per cent and writing down allowances at 25 per cent, would have meant an effective tax rate of 38 per cent. With the committment to increased investment in fixed assets, however, the sums might prove to be a little different.

In the US the company has moved swiftly to lay to rest any fears that the Stromberg acquisition is not living up to expectations. This has been achieved by rejuggling the interests in the US to provide on paper a much more profitable operation. *It is now* no longer possible to strip out the figures from the original acquisition.

Plessey still has a lot of its hopes for the future resting on the System X digital switching system. The aim is to take 8 per cent of the worldwide market. As yet there is little market penetration and perhaps Plessey's biggest advantage is that it has the benefit of the experience of providing the System X exchanges for British Telecom which can be held up in future as shining examples of success.

This will also serve to make Plessey less dependent on Telecom which provides it with a massive 30 per cent of its business.

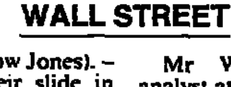
There is still a lot of potential for Plessey. It has a good management team and order books are looking healthy. The defence contracts still prove lucrative and the company is winning a lot of orders. The share price adopted Yo-Yo propensities yesterday before ending down 2p at 206p.

Extel

Extel's communication systems sprang to life yesterday with a little more than their usual enthusiasm to sing the praises of the company's own results. The figures were good across the board, with the new acquisition of Benn Brothers providing a glittering performance to justify the purchase price which some saw as expensive.

Perhaps the only disappointing aspect was the performance of advertising and public relations, which did not match the profits growth of the other divisions. It is an attractive activity for the company to hang on to but whether it can justify retention in the long run will become a point of discussion if results do no improve.

The share price moved up [illegible] on the announcement and at this price they are a little cumbersome. The scrip issue will bring a more manageable price, and with the changes in the structure of the City on everyone's minds and Extel ideally poised to capitalize on that, the shares are worth a closer look.



New York (AP-Dow Jones). – Shares extended their slide in active dealings with some of the bank stocks leading the way – in early trading on Wall Street yesterday.

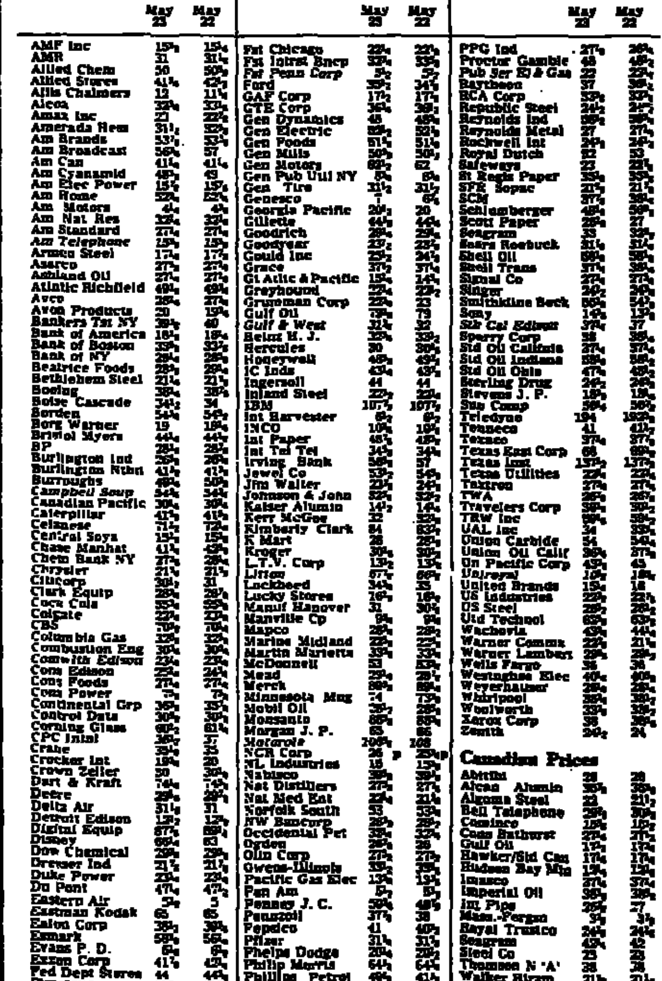
Reports of new problems in the banking industry brought sharp falls in the sector.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 5.24 points at 1110.56.

Declines were more than two-to-one over advances.

Mr William Lefevre, an analyst at Purcell Graham, said: "There is a vast lack of confidence on the part of investors both in stock and in bonds as a result of all the negatives out there. And there is a major complication in that each 'fix' for a problem tends to complicate another.

International Business Machines fell ⅜ to 107⅛; **General Motors** fell ¼ to 62⅝; Exxon fell ⅜ to 41½; Ford fell ⅛ to 35⅜



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APPOINTMENTS

Mechanical engineers' body elects president

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers: **Dr Waheeb Rizk**, chairman of GEC-Ruston Gas Turbines and of the GEC Diesel Group, has been elected 1984/85 president, succeeding Mr George Adler.

National Westminster Home Loans: **Mr Richard Archer** has been appointed managing director, succeeding Mr Frank Griffiths on his retirement.

Unigate: **Mr David Yeomans**, managing director of Wincanton Group, has been appointed to the main board from June 1.

Yorkshire Electricity Board: **Mr James Porteous** is to be the next chairman, for five years from November 1.

Institute of Management Consultants: **Mr John B. Morris**, a partner of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co Management Consultants, has been elected president for 1984/85, succeeding Mr Len J. Weaver, executive chairman of Polymark International. **Mr John D. Chadwick**, director and a governor of Sundridge Park Management Centre, has been elected senior vice-president; **Mr Michael J. Allen**, of Michael J. Allen & Partners, joins **Mr David F. Pyle**, of Reynolds Cooper McCarron Associates, as an elected vice-president; **Mr Denis K. Tindley**, of Deloitte Haskins and Sells Management Consultants, is honorary treasurer; **Mr Chris E. James** of Touche Ross & Co has been elected to the Council.

Guild of Architectural Ironmongers: **Mr John Planck**, a director of Alfred G Roberts (Exports), has been elected president.

Waring & Gillow (Holdings): **Mr Herbert J. Leadley** has been appointed a non-executive director.

Chemical Bank: **Mr David E. Nye**, vice-president, is to be managing director – designate for the recently established subsidiary, Chemical Bank (Guernsey).

Schroder Capital Management: **Mr Richard R. Foulkes** has been appointed senior vice-president.

Gresham Lion: **Mr Anthony Thatcher**, managing director of Dowty Electronics Division and a director of Dowty Group, has become chairman of Gresham Lion.

Wagon Industrial Holdings: **Mr F. M. Thompson**, chief executive of the engineering division, has joined the main board.

John Raven suggests a formula for lasting peace in the pits

Coal Board could end strike swiftly with jobs for life

Headlines project the coal strike as a political issue (Can miners topple Thatcher); a personality duel (Scargill snubs MacGregor); or a military campaign (Police repel pickets).

It is just as truly – if less vividly – a management dilemma. How, amid all this brouhaha, can the Coal Board, with an eye to customer reaction, investment returns, stocking requirements, pit maintenance and investment policy, sort out a sensible settlement for one of Britain's biggest businesses?

These factors still revolve round the men in the pits. Despite intensive mechanization, backed by computer technology, miners' attitudes dominate coal's business prospects.

In 1945 miners did not cut coal in quantities and at rates which might prove that the industry could prosper – or even survive – under private ownership. There was no alternative to the Coal Industry Nationalization Act.

But public management produced no positive response. Absenteeism, 6.44 per cent in 1938, stood at 14.96 per cent in 1957, 10 years after nationalization. Output per manshift was practically static for almost 20 years.

Since 1980, however, incentive pay systems have pushed up productivity and repeatedly separated the miners from Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' union president, on wage strike proposals.

Spectacular win could prove a hollow victory

How should this affect the board's strike strategy? Mainly, by spurring an early settlement which would cut the men adrift from the NUM president on that other major issue of pit closures and return them to work in a mood to back a real coal-recovery based on efficient, modern pits, unhampered by high-cost production.

The idea that the board can batter a high proportion of its employees into – indeed, under – the ground, then carry on as before, is unrealistic.

A mere return to work could be catastrophically costly unless it also meant a return to the recent upward trend in performance.

On this basis, a spectacular win for Mr Ian MacGregor chairman of the board, could prove the hollowest of victories. Once the strikers had returned to work it is unlikely that, as they chewed over their defeat together, they would feel inclined to restrain Mr Scargill. It is even less likely that they would put in productivity performances calculated to enhance Mr MacGregor's managerial reputation. The public, politicians and the board's customers would all sense that, sooner rather later, the union would strike again.

Mr MacGregor ought not to apply experience of the US coal industry and its disputes too readily to British pits. In America, strikes are mainly about money and defeat is taken as an entrepreneurial hazard. In Britain, a pit strike, pushed by management to the logical limit of union surrender, is much more likely to produce a dragging and debilitating update of prewar "ca' canny".

Nor should the public fancy that pits can be left to go out of business, leaving our energy requirements to be met by imported coal, oil and nuclear energy. The Central Electricity Generating Board has 80 million tonnes of coal written firmly into its fuelling requirements until the end of the century. Most of that coal is needed in power stations insulated by extra transport and handling costs from any real threat – or succour – from imported supplies.

A new oil station planned today would come into operation just as North Sea oil was visibly on the way out. Nuclear power station construction is a byword for technical and political delays.

On the other hand Mr Scargill's key demand – surrender by the board of control of pit closures, amounting to a pledge to produce coal regardless of whether it can be sold – cannot be accepted. Nor can the board go along with the union's attempt, supported, apparently, by Mr Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Opposition, to sidetrack essentially commercial issues into the byways of economic sophistry.

One possible compromise, leaving the miners with a powerful incentive for a long peace, the board with proper managerial control and the country with a price which it could reasonably afford to pay, could lie in some prudent adaptation of the Aldington-Jones agreement.

This gave the dockers what most miners are seeking – a guaranteed job for life. It can be argued that that particular social contract helped to turn much of Britain's docklands into industrial deserts, but trends in trading patterns and transport techniques would probably have brought about much the same result. And the agreement was corrupted by the earlier folly of the Dock Labour Scheme, which divorced the power to manage from the responsibility to employ.

A proposition, taking the best elements of Aldington-Jones, which would end the strike by shifting the key issue from maintaining patently uneconomic pits to maintaining potentially economic people, might well infuriate market economists but ought to reassure most miners, leave the board with a number of useful options and chime well with the national sense of social decency.

Pit closure decisions would remain the concern of management. Miners would be expected to move reasonable distances to sustain their job entitlement. Those who wanted to opt out would be offered at least the current terms on redundancy. If the need to reduce manpower and cut high-cost capacity can be met – as the board has claimed – by voluntary and natural wastage, the net extra cost for the industry of such an agreement would be negligible.

If the NUM rejected such an offer, the public would be much more likely to support the Government to the bitter end, which, regardless of the effect on the industry itself, would then become a political, indeed, constitutional necessity.

If, on the other hand, neither this nor any other new and significant compromise solution is proposed, the issues will become increasingly confused by even larger and shriller headlines.

If, the NCB was a public company, the Stock Exchange would be signalling warnings to the directors to look to their dividends and warnings to the directors to look to their dividends and shareholders. But Mr MacGregor, just as much as the NUM, is insulated by nationalization from such salutary nudges to effective negotiation.

Danger of a botched last-minute rescue operation

This, in a politically charged atmosphere, could mean that the management role might be wrenched from his hands at the final critical moment. Neither the board nor the public interest would be served by a botched, last minute rescue operation thrown together by a latter-day Wilberforce or Figgures.

The Government, which ought to see itself as the taxpayers' Ombudsman in this dangerously unrealistic situation, has a selfish party incentive to give negotiations the necessary behind-the-scenes push.

The Coal Board claims it will be six months before the strike bites. The NUM asserts that it will go on as long as necessary. Six months will bring us to mid-November. Does the Prime Minister think the voters will like roasting their Christmas turkeys over backyard barbecues?



Head-on confrontations: NCB must bring miners back in mood for lasting recovery

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1983/84 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Down on the farm, royal patronage behind revival

By Derek Harris

The drive to create workshops and small business jobs in rural areas by converting derelict agricultural buildings is getting royal help.

Since first getting the idea about three years ago for refurbishing properties on his Duchy of Cornwall estates, Prince Charles has been unobtrusively setting up a development programme which already has 25 workshops operating, creating some 70 jobs.

But next Tuesday, with the completed conversion of disused Street Farm at Doughton, near Tetbury in Gloucestershire, the Prince will be unveiling the full extent of the Duchy's contribution to bringing back work into the countryside.

The Duchy, like other estates around the country, has seen modern farming techniques make redundant some buildings from farms and cottages to forges and mills.

Together with the Doughton project, which is providing five workshops for mostly local businesses, some 40 more projects are in hand, some nearing completion. Altogether the Duchy will eventually be providing space to support some 78 small businesses while creating an estimated 211 jobs.

The projects are spread throughout the South West including Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Avon as well as Gloucestershire. Once the present conversions are finished, it is possible that the workshop programme could be further extended because at the Prince's behest the Duchy has been investigating all derelict buildings to assess possibilities of conversion.

Workshops already operating have attracted a wide variety of small businesses, although there is considerable emphasis on rural crafts, including farrowing, woodworking and making up leather goods. Printing, electronics and jigsaw making are other sectors involved.

At Street Farm, built in Cotswold stone, the workshops have already been let, one to Thelma Billington, who re-sharpens textile cutting tools. The other businesses there are ceramic restoration (Peter Wain), furniture making (Anthony Portus and Nick Stening), woodcarving (Roy Bishop) and graphic design (Bob Ayliffe).

This single project at Street Farm development at a cost of £105,000 is expected to create eight jobs initially but with the expectation of an increased number.

Tenancies of the Duchy workshops will normally be on an annual basis and renewable. Rents are negotiable but are likely to range between £2 and £2.50 per square foot. There is a rent review every three years.

Contact: Duchy of Cornwall, 10 Buckingham Gate, London SW1; phone (01) 834 7346.

Waging a stop-start minibus battle

By Andrew Cornelius

Luton is the location for a new high-frequency town centre minibus service which, if it proves a success, could be copied in other towns throughout the country.

The new 10p flat fare service, which has been operating for two weeks, has been set up by Robert Dudley, a local taxi and minibus owner, in a bid to plug a gap in the existing bus services offered by United Counties, which until now has enjoyed a virtual monopoly in the area. Mr Dudley has had to fight for four years, attend three unsuccessful hearings with Metropolitan Traffic Commissioners, and finally appeal to the Secretary of State for Transport, to win approval for the scheme.

Since getting approval Mr Dudley has invested £50,000 on five new minibuses decked out in orange, blue and white livery, and taken on five extra staff to add to the 25 people already employed by his minibus business. But the battle is not yet won.

Mr Dudley said that the new service, called "The Lutonian" to promote local loyalty, must carry about 200 passengers a day and earn £75 to £100 each week from the advertising panels on the side of the minibuses within about three months if it to be successful. Ultimately Mr Dudley is aiming for an average of about 600 passengers a day and £100 each week out of a potential £220 a week from advertising.

The key to the the success of this scheme is getting people accustomed to the buses. "My first impression is that people think that a vehicle has to be green (the United Counties colour) for it to be a bus," Mr Dudley said.

The first day the service was introduced only 14 people used the service which operates on a 3.6 mile circuit linking the the railway station with another busy shopping area.

Mr Dudley's campaign to publicise the new service has been hampered by a lack of enthusiasm from the local weekly newspapers in giving any editorial coverage to the new service.

Since the first day business had improved. In the first week the service carried 1,000 passengers "and the numbers are increasing each day", Mr Dudley said.

Encouraging the smaller businesses

■ The shape of things to come is already emerging in the wake of this week's long-expected merger agreement between Business in the Community (BIC) and the Confederation of British Industry's Special Programmes Unit (SPU), *Derek Harris writes.*

BECENTA, the Bedfordshire and Chiltern Enterprise Agency based in Luton, is linking with a Community Action Programme (CAP) group covering Bedfordshire. Discussions on a similar association in the Lincoln area are also progressing.

This week's agreement will resut in the launching in October of a new organization using the BIC name. BIC has been the force behind the enterprise agency movement; there are now more than 170 such agencies around the country, mostly counselling small businesses and some helping set up workshops and offices.

The SPU has coordinated the growth of CAPs bringing together local leaders of industry and commerce to develop regional and local strategies to boost business and create jobs. There are some 26 CAPs in various stages of development. Enterprise agencies are expected to increase by another 40 soon.

Chief executive of the new BIC will be Stephen O'Brien, the present BIC chief executive. James Cooke, SPU's chief executive, stays on until October to help see through the merger. He went to the SPU on secondment after being marketing adviser to PA Management Consultants. Mr Cooke said: "I am discussing a number of job possibilities."

The merger brings central administrative economies but is expected to strengthen substantially the regional organization of the new body whose chairman will be Lord Carr. There will be 12 regional bases in England and Wales.

Mr O'Brien said: "There could obviously be local variations in the way that CAPs and enterprise agencies will come closer together. These are complementary functions: the CAPs have been studying medium-term employment prospects so it is possible to work out some sort of strategy. That could guide the work of the agencies. What I hope will come out of it particularly is an expansion of the efficiency of the agencies."

The new body expects to continue the SPU involvement in Government youth training schemes.

One effect of the merger will be that companies and institutions will not find themselves contributing to two different organizations working in largely the same field. Potentially this could improve the funding strength of the new BIC.

■ Lloyds Bank has beefed up its small business operations by creating a small business unit which will operate within the bank's business advisory service. The new unit will be headed by Don Good who moves from being assistant chief manager of Lloyds Leasing.

Franchising will be part of the unit's remit, with Allan Pope, Lloyds' franchise manager, becoming part of the new unit.

The bank's business advisory service has been looking after small businesses through a team of specialist managers which visit small companies to assess performance, their present situation and future plans. The service has made more than 700 visits in the past year.

Lloyds has developed an appraisal scheme for new technology ventures with the help of the Cranfield Institute of Technology which makes the technical assessments of company plans. Contact: initially any local branch of Lloyds Bank.

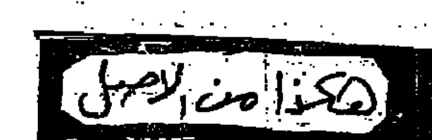
MR FRIDAY Ken Pyne



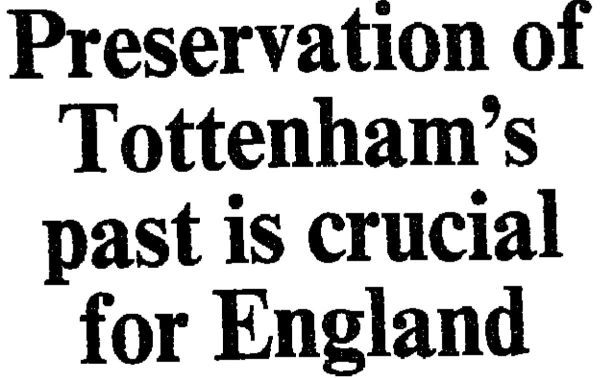
"It seems the only growth area these days is in business expansion schemes."

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS





FOOTBALL: TWO GREAT CLUBS FACE DIFFICULT DECISIONS OVER CHOICE OF MANAGER



Preservation of Tottenham's past is crucial for England

By David Miller

Tottenham have something rare and valuable in football: a reputation for a style. That is something more durable than the name of any single player. Over the years, it is great individuals such as Burgess, Ramsey, Baily, Harmer, Blanchflower, White, Jones, Greaves, Gilzean, Venables, Hoddle and Ardiles who have created the style, but it is the club which is the trustee of faithful continuity.

Maybe it is the strong north-east London Jewish vein among loyal White Hart Lane supporters which has generated the demand for, and realisation of, artistic and entertaining football. They do say that if during a quiet lull in play you should shout "Taxi!", at least half the season-ticket holders would leap to their feet. There is an empathy with classiness on the pitch which carries a strong line from the smart end of the rag trade.

The tradition which has rolled down the years, from the formative days of Arthur Rowe's push-and-run – a tapestry of passing which I watch in awe as a boy – through the incomparable period of Bill Nicholson's management and Blanchflower's captaincy, down to Keith Burkinshaw's recent cup victories, was heavy in the air on Wednesday night.

If the sheer willpower of Roberts's goal saved the night, what always caught the imagination of the crowd was the sight of the full backs, Hughton and Thomas, going forward in attack or Galvin about to break loose on the wing.

The replacement of Burkinshaw is, therefore, an appointment of singular importance to English soccer, because Spurs are one of the few remaining clubs where we can expect to find an emphasis on skill such as Italy and West Germany displayed in the fixture to celebrate FIFA's eightieth anniversary in Zurich on Tuesday.

Germany may have been unable to beat England in their World Cup meeting in Madrid, but they, and especially Italy, produce a higher level of technique than England, and only the integrity of coaches such as Burkinshaw can maintain or lift England's present moderate overall standards.

Why, therefore, are Burkinshaw and Spurs parting company when he has just won his first European trophy for the club – the third trophy during his management – and this without the services of Hoddle and Ardilles? Undoubtedly there is a division between manager and board, which the generosity of next Tuesday's benefit match against England, does not hide.

Burkinshaw, for all his imagination, is one of those introspective contemporary coaches who believes that he, exclusively, is right, that non-professionals such as directors and press are not really entitled to an opinion, even if that opinion is tolerated. Further, he believes, erroneously in my opinion, that the management should control all financial deals, which cannot make sense in these complex times, even if Nicholson did decide *everything* down to the moment to replace worn training balls.

Burkinshaw *has* made errors: the attempt in 1979-80, to play Ardiles, the best passer in Britain, up front between Jones and Armstrong, when it was Ardiles, more than Hoddle, who would prove the ubiquitous, midfield Aladdin of the Wembley years: and the failure to take decisive action, at a personal level, with Hoddle and Archibald. For all that, he has done Tottenham well, and must now be favourite to return to St James's Park on the resignation of Arthur Cox, his early career having been shaped as coach there under Joe Harvey.

We shall see whether the board will do the right thing. Like Arsenal, they want a coach, not a general manager, and they fancy the pattern of a kind of Anfield continuity which would involve the promotion of Burkinshaw's assistant, Peter Shreeves. They also look enviously at the exceptional record of motivation of moderate as well as good players by Brian Clough, but fear his irrepressible autocracy.

With only Hoddle's contract seriously to worry about, and no foreign bidders, they are not in a hurry. But they have to get it right for English football as well as for the taxi-drivers.

The cup is full: Burkinshaw and fans salute each other

England are worthy champions of Europe

By Clive White

England Under-21 2
Spain Under-21...................0
(England win 3-0 on agg)

In the face of cynical tactics by their Spanish opponents England retained the European Under-21 championship with two goals in two minutes early in the second half of this final, second leg, at Bramall Lane last night.

From the kick-off, Sterland, of Sheffield Wednesday, the hero of the first leg met with instant applause from the Bramall Lane crowd for the merest touch. England needed all the encouragement they could get for they receive nothing on the field from the Spaniards.

But, despite showing neat instinctive skills in attack that suggested they might be worth at least a goal, Spain stupidly jeopardised their opsition with vicious clumsy fouls on and off the ball.

Hateley and Hodge were crudely fouled in the first few minutes and then Pachi Salinas unnesessarily threw out a wild fist at Hateley as the ball ran out of play, leaving the Portsmouth player prostrate in the penalty area. It gained the Spaniard a booking, but nothing for England.

Butragueno's pace caused consternation in the England defence, and when Watson allowed him once to slip free the England captain came in for a sharp reprimand from his goalkeeper, Bailey. Attacks on goal were, however, outnumbered by the physical kind. But Sterland pleased his supporters with a thumping volley that Zubizarreta did well to smother.

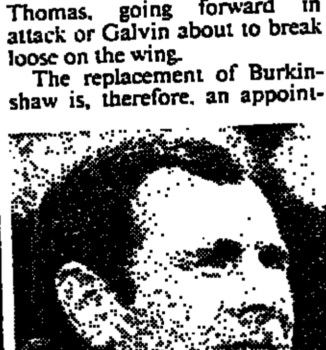
Spain were given severe headaches by Gayle's verve in the first leg found an easy remedy this time. Sanchis cut him down blatantly from behind, but went unpunished. The infamous Miguel Angel, a little later made a deeper impression upon the referee as well as Gayle's ankles and was promptly booked.

A long powerful run from Pickering, that reached the Spanish penalty area, was evidence of a Spanish vulnerability on the flanks – of which there was further evidence four minutes into the second half.

Callaghan worked space for a deep, penetrating cross which Hateley volleyed ruthlessly into the net from close range at the far post. Two minutes later, England put this final beyond the reach of Spain when Hodge tricked his way between two players and, from his cross, Gayle shot home underneath the goalkeeper's body.

ENGLAND UNDER-21: G Bailey (Manchester United); M Sterland (Sheffield Wednesday), N Pickering (Sunderland), P Bracewell (Everton), D Watson (Norwich City), D Mountfield (Everton), N Callaghan (Watford), H Gayle (Birmingham City), M Hateley (Portsmouth), S Hodge (Nottingham Forest), K Brock (Oxford United).

SPAIN UNDER-21: Zubizarreta (Athletic Bilbao), Chendo (Cadiz), Quique (Atletico Madrid), Sanchis (Real Madrid), Miguel Angel (Espanol), Francisco (Sevilla), Endica (Athletic Bilbao), Butragueno (Real Madrid), Michel Castilla (Rojo Barcelona).
Referee: R Wurtz (France).



Cox: turned down contract

Cox leaves Newcastle

Arthur Cox, who steered Newcastle United to the first division in the season just ended, resigned yesterday. Cox, whose current contract expires in September, turned down the offer of a new two-year deal.

The club's general manager, Russell Cushing, said: "Mr Cox has turned down the offer of a new contract because he was not satisfied with the length of it. We have had no alternative but to regretfully accept his resignation."

Stan Seymour, the Newcastle chairman, addwd: "I am very disappointed, but the decision is his and we can do nothing about it." Cox had been with Newcastle for four years.

He was hoping for a four-year deal, but was concerned that the club would not buy four quality players for next season when they will not have Keegan, who has retired.

I don't want to be associated with another Wolves", Cox said. "I have been truthful with the fans and will not con them now."

Cox was Sunderland's chief coach when they won the FA Cup in 1973.

Jack Charlton, Newcastle's former idol, Malcolm MacDonald and Keith Burkinshaw, who was Newcastle's coach when they reached the 1974 FA Cup final, are certain to be considered for the job.

Robson's squad and patience stretched by Blissett injury

Bobby Robson's patience showed signs of exhaustion yesterday when his already depleted squad for the last British Championship match with Scotland at Hampden Park tomorrow was again hit by injury.

The England manager watched with dismay as Luther Blissett twisted back muscles in training, then criticized the haphazard way he is forced to prepare for internationals.

"No other country playing international football has the type of problims we have", Robson said yesterday. "I have only 13 players in full training today. Two of them are goalkeepers, and at the moment I have no idea of the team I can send out on Saturday."

Robson's anger increased when he found that Ray Wilkins, Bryan Robson and Mike Duxbury were suffering from jet-lag and fatigue after a 48-hour trip to HongKong for two friendlies with Manchester United.

"I can't think of another national association who would permit three squad players to play four matches in nine days just before a vital match like this", he said. "I would not normally have considered the United players after such a trip, but circumstances dictate that I must."

Blissett's injury is the latest in a long list of setbacks which will force England to field a severely weakened team for a match in which victory will give the Scots a chance to finish as British champions. "It is probably the worst preparation I have had for any of my 18 previous internationals", Robson said.

He may now call up Mark Hateley, the Portsmouth forward. Tony Woodcock is making progress after a hamstring injury, and Robson is hopeful he will play tomorrow.

The manager confirmed, however, that Terry Fenwick, the Queen's Park Rangers' defender, will make his full international debut in the game. Dave Watson, of Norwich City will join the senior squad today and is likely to be on the substitutes' bench.

Four Tottenham Hotspur players cut short their UEFA Cup celebrations yesterday to join up with the England squad. Graham Roberts, Mike Hazard, Gary Mabbutt and Danny Thomas all emerged unhamred from the game against Anderlecht. Robson said: "I'm delighted they won because they will be bubbling and that will give us all a lift."

Archibald excused

By Hugh Taylor

The importance of being a hero to millions of television viewers was emphasized yesterday when Steve Archibald disrupted the plans of Jock Stein, the Scotland manager, almost on the eve of the country's most important match, the international with England at Hampden.

The player who had done so much to help Spurs win the UEFA Cup final against Anderlecht failed to appear in time at the Scotland training headquarters at Turneberry to play in a practice session specially arranged for him and caused an embarrassed Stein to delay announcing his team.

Nevertheless, Archibald, if he is fit after the fierce and emotional cup final on Wednesday, will lead Scotland at Hampden. "I am disappointed that Archibald did not make it in time for the training session," Stein said. "But we are short of experienced players and he showed in the UEFA final that he is really in form."

Archibald would be the first choice at centre forward of the Scottish football enthusiasts who saw him play so well against Anderlecht. But a dilemma has been posed for Stein who, since his appointment as manager, has insisted that strict discipline in the Scottish ranks, so often in the past notorious for off-the-field discretions, is paramount.

Stein insists, however, that Archibald had to be allowed some latitude after the celebrations at White Hart Lane and he said firmly: "I want Archibald. We are now preparing for the World Cup and it is important that a player of his ability plays in this game with a partner who will suit his style."

Archibald, who said earlier yesterday that he was in fine condition and desperately eager to play for Scotland, was due to report to the Scottish party last night. The Scotland side is now expected to be announced today.

Christie has to wait

Trevor Christie's move from Notts County to Nottingham Forest may have to wait for up to three weeks. Notts County have flown to Kenya for a 10-day tour and Brian Clough, the Forest manager who has made a £175,000 bid for the forward, will fly out to Australia to join his team on a three-week visit.

● Mick Ferguson, the on-loan forward whose goals helped Coventry stay in the first division, has failed to agree terms and will now return to Birmingham City, who were relegated.

● Kirk Stephens, the Luton Town full back, has rejected a new contract and is seeking a transfer after six years with the first division club.

● Ian Miller, the Blackburn Rovers winger, has turned down new terms and is available for transfer.

England's tough test

Moscow (Reuter) – Only one of three of the most fancied sides in the European youth championship which begins tomorrow will survive the first phase of the competition. England, who have won the championship eight times since it was first played in 1948, the Soviet Union, winners five times, and East Germany, are all drawn together in Group C in Moscow.

DATES: May 25: Group A (Leningrad): Ireland v Scotland, Greece v Portugal; Group B (Kiev): Bulgaria v Denmark, Poland v Italy; Group C (Moscow): England v East Germany, USSR v Luxemborg; Group D (Minsky): Czechoslovakia v Hungary, Switzerland v Spain.
May 27: Group A (Leningrad): Ireland v Greece, Scotland v Portugal; Group B (Kiev): Bulgaria v Poland, Denmark v Italy; Group C (Moscow): England v USSR, East Germany v Luxembourg; Group D (Minsky): Czechoslovakia v Switzerland, Hungary v Spain.
May 29: Group A (Leningrad): Ireland v Portugal, Scotland v Greece; Group B (Kieve): Bulgaria v Italy, Denmark v Poland; Group C (Moscow): England v Luxemborg, East Germany v USSR; Group D (Minsk): Czechoslovakia v Spain, Hungary v Switzerland.
June 1 (Moscow): Semi-finals: Winner Group A v Winner Group C; Winner Group B v Winner Group D. June 3 (Moscow): Match for third place and final.

Wednesday's results

UEFA CUP: Final, second leg: Tottenham Hotspur 1, Anderlecht 1. (act. score after 90 mins 1–1, agg: 2–2. Tottenham won 4–3 on penalties).
NORRKOPING: World Cup qualifying: Group Two: Sweden 4, Malta 0.
BUDAPEST: International Match: Hungary 0, Norway 0.
DUBLIN: International Match: Republic of Ireland: 0, Poland 0.

IN BRIEF

McGuigan proves major attraction in London

Barry McGuigan's defence of his European featherweight title at the Royal Albert Hall on June 5 has prompted an astonishing response in ticket sales, according to promoter Mike Barrett. "It is certain to be a sell-out", he said.

McGuigan, who has not boxed outside Belfast since June 1982, meets Esteban Equia of Spain in his first major contest in London. Nick Wilshire, the light middleweight from Bristol, will meet an American opponent in an extra contest on the same bill.

RUGBY LEAGUE: The new structure for the enlarged 20-team second division next season means Kent Invicta will play in Group 1, which is mostly composed of Yorkshire clubs, while Fulham and Cardiff City compete in Group 2, composed of Lancashire and Cumbria clubs (Keith Macklin writes). Mansfield fit happily into Group 1, but the other new team, Sheffield, have to travel over the Pennines to play in Group 2.

SQUASH: Hiddy Jahan, the British No 1, was beaten 15-8, 15-12, 12-15, 12-15, 16-18 by unseeded Alex Doucas, of Canada, in the Mennin Cup at Toronto on Wednesday.

GOLF: Norio Mikami, of Japan scored an eight-under-par 64 to take a two-stroke first round lead in the Noto golf classic yesterday.

MOTOR RACING: Jacques Villeneuve, the Canadian driver, will miss the Indianapolis 500 race on Sunday after failing to get medical clearance. Villeneuve was detained in hospital for two days last week after suffering head injuries from a crash during practice.

BASKETBALL: Boston Celtics qualified for the final of the National Association championship when they beat Milwaukee Bucks 115 to 108 on Wednesday to take an unbeatable 4-1 lead in their semi-final series.

TENNIS: Martina Navratilova, the world women's No 1, who can complete the grand slam if she wins the French open singles, was yesterday named top seed for the tournament, which begins here on Monday. Navratilova has won the Wimbledon, United States and Australian open singles.

SEEDINGS: 1, M Navratilova (US); 2, C Lloyd (US); 3, H Mandlikova (Cz); 4, A Jaeger (US); 5, K Jordan (US); 6, Z Garrison (US); 7, J Durie (GB); 8, K Horvath (US); 9, H Sukova (Cz); 10, M Maleeva (Bul); 11, A Hanika (WG); 12, A Temesvari (Hun), 13, L Bonder (US); 14, Kohde-Kilsh (WG); 15, C Bassett (Can); 16, I Madruga (Arg).

COMMONWEALTH GAMES: A regional delegation will travel to London next week to try to head off a conflict between the Central American and Caribbean Games and the Commonwealth Games in 1986. The games are scheduled to begin one day apart, and the conflict could keep athletes from 10 Commonwealth-member states in the Caribbean from the regional meeting in the Dominican Republic.

EQUESTRIANISM: Piero d'Inzeo, the veteran Olympic competitor, is in hospital in Harare, Zimbabwe with severe pelvic injuries after a weekend riding accident.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Welsh Cup final, second leg
Wrexham (1) v Shrewsbury (2) (kick-off 7.30).

OTHER SPORT
BOXING: ABA junior finals (Wembley Conference Centre, 5.30).
GOLF: PGA championship (Wentworth); English women's championship (Hunstanton).
TENNIS: Paddington tournament.

GYMNASTICS

Seven girls bound for Los Angeles

Six gymnasts, all internationals, have been named by the British Amateur Gymnastics Association for the women's team to represent Britain at the Olympic Games (Peter Aykroyd writes).

They are Natalie Davies (Orpington), Amanda Harrison (Loughton), Sally Larner (Bromsgrove), Hayley Price (Wolverhampton), Kathleen Williams (Manchester) and Lisa Young (Telford). The travelling reserve is Cheryl Weatherstone (Darien, Connecticut).

The number is four more than the original allocation because the withdrawal of the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries has moved Britain into the elite 12 nations permitted to send a full team of six.

The selection has been made subject to extra funds being granted by the British Olympic Association for ferrying the increased men's and women's teams to Los Angeles. The BAGA hopes that its application will be considered favourably as Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones has already donated £32,000 to the BOA in the United States with gymnastics costs in mind.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Baltimore Orioles 9, Oakland Athletics 5; Kansas City Royals 1, Chicago White Sox 0; Toronto Blue Jays 4, Minnesota Twins 1; New York Yankees 3, Seattle Mariners 0; Cleveland Indians 5, Boston Red Sox 4; Texas Rangers 6, Milwaukee Brewers 1; Detroit Tigers 4, California Angels 2.
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Houston Astros 4, St Louis Cardinals 0; Chicago Cubs 3, Atlanta Braves 1; Los Angeles Dodgers 1, Philadelphia Phillies 0; Pittsburgh Pirates 7, Cincinnati Reds 2; San Diego Padres 2, Montreal Expos 1. New York Mets v San Francisco Giants, postponed.

FOOTBALL
SWISS CUP: Semi-final replay: Servette Geneva 1, Aarau 0. (Servette meet Lausanne in final, Berne, June 11).

GOLF
NOTO (Japan): Noto Classic: first round leaders: (Japanese unless stated): 64: N Mikami, 66: T Irie, 67: T Nakajima, Y Miyamoto.
HOUSTON: US LPGA moneywinners' list: (US unless stated): 1, P Bradley 114,131 dollars; 2, B King 107,906; J Inkster 79,487; 4, P Sheehan 73,052; 5, A Miller 70,189; 6, A Okamoto (Japan) 68,184; 7, B Bunkowsky (Can) 60,583; 8, A Alcott 60,436; 9, N Lopez 59,623; 10, C Johnson 57,262.

TENNIS
PARIS: French Open: Men's singles qualifying matches: J Potier (Fr) bt T Allan (Aus) 6-3, 7-6; R Vizcaino (Sp) bt J Feaver (GB) 6-3, 6-2; K Carlsson (Swe) bt T Pham (Fr 7-6, 6-1; E Jelen (WG) bt S Sakamoto (Japan) 6-0, 6-2; B Willenborg (US) bt H van Boeckel (Neth) 5-0, 6-4; A Gimenez (Sp) bt S Shirashi (Japan) 7-6, 6-4; 5-7, 7-5; F Gonzales (Paraguay) bt D MacPherson (Aus) 6-4, 6-4; M Kratzmann (Aus) bt P Johnston (Aus) 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; D de Miguel (Sp) bt J Svensson (Swe) 6-1, 6-2, E Osta (Sp) bt D Mustard (NZ) 6-4, 6-2; M Jaite (Arg) bt E Adams (US) 6-1, 6-3; J van Langendonck (Bel) bt S Nishio (Japan) 7-6, 6-4; S Perkiss (Israel) bt S Vasudevan (India) 4-6, 6-2, 6-1; S Youl (Aus) bt M Keller (Bra) 6-3, 6-0; B Levine (US) bt J Figueras (Sp) 7-6, 7-6.
J Etterbeek (US) bt O Rahnasto (Fin) 3-6, 6-2, 6-2; D Leal (US) bt B Walts (US) 6-3, 6-4; B Manson (US) bt M Narducci (It) 6-3, 7-5; B Cox (US) bt J Bardou (Sp) 6-3, 6-1; P Wojtisek (Cz) bt B Derlin (NZ) 7-6, 6-3; H De Wet (SA) bt J Hervet (Fr) 6-2, 2-6; W Hampson (Aus) bt Zipf (WG) 6-1, 6-3; H De La Pena (Arg bt C Stroda (US) 6-4, 7-5; M Ronneberg (Norway) bt J Smith (GB) 6-4, 6-3, G Guerrero (Arg) bt R Barlow (Aus) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; S Birner (Cz) bt P Londgren (Swe) 6-3, 6-4; R Lewis (GB) bt A Garcia (US) 7-6, 6-1; C Wittus (US) bt J Salkeld (Peru) 7-6, 6-1.
PERUGIA: Italian Women's Open championships: Second round: C Lloyd (US) bt C Jolissaint (Switz) 6-2, 6-3; A M Cecchini (It) bt T Scheur-Larson (Den) 6-4, 6-4; Y Vermaak (SA) bt H Sukova (Czech) 6-0, 2-6, 6-2; A Temesvari (Hun) bt C Suire (Fr) 6-0, 6-1; I Madruga-C Bassett (Can) bt C Vanier (Fr); I Madruga-Osses (Arg) bt S Solomon (US) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; L Bonder (US) bt T Phelps (US) 6-2, 6-3; R Uys
DUSSELDORF: World team cup: Red Group: Czechoslovakia bt Austria 3-0: I Lendl bt P McNamee 6-2, 6-3; T Smid bt J Alexander 3-6, 6-2, 6-4; Lendl and Smid bt McNamee and H Edmondson 7-5, 6-3. Italy beat Sweden, 3-0: C Barazzutti bt H Sundstroim 6-2, 6-3; G Ocleppo bt A Jarryd 7-6, 6-1; Barazzutti and Ocleppo bt Sundstrom and Jarryd 7-6, 6-2.

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Play-offs: Boston Celtics 115, Milwaukee Bucks 108 (Boston win series, 4-1). Phoenix Suns 126, Los Angeles Lakers 121 (Lakers lead series 3-2).
PARIS: Olympic qualifying: European tournament: USSR 100, WG 82; Greece 104, Sweden 80; France 102, Israel 95.
SAO PAULO: Olympic qualifying: Americas' tournament: Uruguay 105, Argentina 101; Mexico 103, Cuba 90; Panama 115, Puerto Rico 103; Brazil 99, Canada 93.

STANDINGS	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	7	7	0	669	603	14
Canada	8	6	2	759	645	14
Uruguay	7	6	1	688	666	13
Panama	7	4	3	659	670	11
Puerto Rico	7	3	4	646	665	10
Cuba	7	2	5	631	646	9
Mexico	7	2	5	628	676	9

WEDNESDAY'S EVENING RACING

Ripon

6.45 (5f) 1, Sorayah (R Hills, 7-2); 2, Sharp Ascent (4-9 fav); 3, Edwin's Princess (20-1). 10 ran. NR First Experience. 3,1,3l. H Thomson Jones. TOTE: £5.70. Ps: £1.50, £1.10, £2.60. DF: £2.00, CSF: £5.30.

7.10 (5f) 1, Major's Review (K Hodgson, 11-4); 2, Why Work (2-1 fav); 3, Sound Work (13-2). 13 ran. 3l,4l,2l. E Weymes. TOTE: £3.40. Ps: £1.40, £1.10, £5.30. DF: £3.10. CSF: £10.62.

7.35 (1m 4f) 1, Bishop's Ring (W R Swinburn 9-2); 2, Hotkole (11-4 fav); 3, Taelos (5-1). 15 ran. 1½l, nk. M Stoute. TOTE: £3.40. £1.60, £1.60, £2.00. DF: £5.00 CSF: £17.37. Tricast: £59.56.

8.05 (1m) 1, First Pleasure (R Lines 25-1); 2, Taygetus (5-1); 3, Sully's Choice (16-1); 4, Balmacara (12-1). Record Harvest 3-1 fav. 19 ran. NR: Culminate. ½l, sh hd. W Hastings-Bass. TOTE: £65.30, £6.50, £1.10, £2.40, £2.10. DF: £161.00. CSF: £150.99. Tricast: £1,935.

8.35 (6f) 1, Pentland Javelin (S Parks 7-1); 2, Cree Bay (6-4 fav); 3, Al Trui (11-2). 11 ran. Hd, 1½l. R Hollinshead. TOTE: £10.30, £2.60, £1.50, £2.00. DF: £10.20. CSF: £18.23. Tricast: £64.18.

9.05 (1m 1f) 1, Northern Tempest (W R Swinburn 1-4 fav); 2, Try To Stop Me (10-1); 3, Malstrano (25-1). 12 ran. NB: Jack's Lad. 3l, ½l. M Stoute. TOTE: £1.40, £1.10, £1.40, £2.30 DF: £3.70. CSF: £3.41. Placepot: £14.90.

CRICKET: NOTTS MISS THE CHANCE OF CAPITALIZING ON COLLAPSE OF COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Essex go from one extreme to another with Gooch century

By John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent

CHELMSFORD: Essex, with eight second innings wickets in hand are 15 runs ahead of Nottinghamshire.

What a ridiculous, absorbing, improbable, lovely day! Between 12 o'clock and 7.15 Essex, the reigning county champions, lost 10 wickets for 36 runs. In the remaining six and a quarter sunlit hours they scored 225 runs and lost only one wicket. By lunchtime they had suffered the indignity of following on. At close of play they must have had thoughts of victory.

Thanks specially to Gooch, but also to Fletcher, both sides contributed to the fun. These two added 167 for the second wicket in Essex's second innings after Nottinghamshire had enjoyed the sort of hour which have seemed almost too good to be true. No sooner had they resigned themselves to a prolonged struggle for a first innings lead than Essex disintergrated.

There is no excuse, of course, for Essex being quite as feeble as they were in the hour and a quarter before lunch. Every credit, though, to Nottinghamshire, for making and taking their chance. Benefiting from the experience of bowling on Trent Bridge pitches, where the ball can move about in the same sort of way, they pitched it up and made the batsmen play

The punter who has backed himself to win £80,000 if they win the championship must have known that Rice was back in business as a bowler. He, Hadlee, Saxelby and Cooper dovetailed splendidly and the catches stuck.

Later on, when Gooch and Fletcher were digging in, a simple, vital on went down.

Perhaps Essex should have been warned of the dangers that lurked when Gooch, not long before he was out, statred to play and miss at Rice. Reluctant to knuckle down, Gooch himself was caught at the wicket off the inside edge. Without a run added, Fletcher edged a lifting ball, his first, to first slip, and East was well caught at second slip, by Hadlee falling to his left.

While McEwan and Hardie were together a total collapse seemed unlikely. But at 88 McEwan was caught at the wicket, driving at a ball so wide that he had a job to reach it. Pringle dragged his second ball, a yorker, into his stumps; Turner played back to a good-length ball and was bowled. Hardie, ·mbling for a fourth run, was deceived by an effortless throw from Rice.

Rice's return, from in front of the pavilion, must have carried all of 80 yards. Two balls later the last two wickets had fallen. And in one over which Essex had to face before lunch upon following on, Gladwin, not to be left out of it, spooned Hadlee gently to midwicket. In the course of 18 overs the only Essex batsman not to have got out was Acfield, but then he had not received a ball.

Having no doubt got a thing or two off his chest at lunch, Fletcher went out afterwards and showed the application which he expected from the others. Times without number Hadlee beat him, and when he was eight and the score 46 he survived a straight-in-straight-out chance to first slip off Saxelby. Not until just before tea did he venture an attacking stroke.

Fletcher's was, all the same, an effort of great character. Gooch, prepared to work at it this time, was left to make almost all the early runs. His 108, a brilliant piece of batting, brought smiles back to those rosy faces from the country places to be seen at the river end. Only eight overs were left when, off Saxelby, he gave French his third catch of the day.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 284 (R Hadlee 71 not out, D W Randall 58; N A Foster 4 for 86)

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch c French b Rice	33
C Gladwin c French b Rice	1
†B R Hardie run out	15
D E East c Hadlee b Cooper	24
*K W R Fletcher c Hadlee b Rice	0
K S McEwanc Frenchb Saxelby	17
B R Hardie run out	15
D R Pringle b Saxelby	0
S Turner b Saxelby	0
N A Foster c Rice b Saxelby	0
J K Laver c Broad b Hadlee	0
D L Acfieldnot out	0
Extras (l-b 3)	3
Total (48.1 overs)	93

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-60, 3-60, 4-60, 5-88, 6-90, 7-90, 8-93, 9-93, 10-93.

BOWLING: Hadlee 13-4-32-1; Rice 11-7-15-3; Cooper 18-8-28-1; Saxelby 6.1-3-15-4

SecondInnings

G A Gooch c French b Saxelby	108
C Gladwin c Cooper b Hadlee.	2
*K W R Fletcher not out	72
†D E East not out	1
Extras (l-b 2, n-b 1)	3
Total (2 wkts)	186

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-170.

Bonus points: Essexx 4, Nottinghamshire 7

Umpires: R Julien and R Palmer

CRICKET New Zealand will play four Test matches and five one-day internationals ina scaled down tour of the West Indies next year. The tour is expected to begin in mid-March and will end on May 8.



Forward with a backward glance: Hampshire during his 66 (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

No way to impress a selector

By Peter Ball

CHESTERFIELD: Surrey, with nine second innings wickets in hand, lead Derby by 102 runs.

For the second successive day, a Test selector was present at Queen's Park. Although the tree-lined ground is one of the most pleasant settings for county cricket, and the sun again shone throughout the day, it is probable that Phil Sharpe left at the end wondering whether his journey was really necessary.

Once again, none of the obvious candidates made much impression. Miller did little with the bat to redeem his uncharacteristically loose bowling of the first day, and Barnett failed to develop after the promising start. Only Richards, who is unlikely to be a serious candidate for the one-day internationals, did much to jog a selector's attention as he kept tidily enough to reinforce the impression his hundred had made.

Although Barnett departed quickly, the morning and the first part of the afternoon belonged exclusively to the Derbyshire batsmen. Hill, who had been dropped last week for slow batting in a Benson and Hedges match, and Hampshire were watchful against Pocock, but both drove attractively to punctuate their steady accumulation with a sprinkling of boundaries.

If there was little urgency about the batting, there was even less about Surrey's bowling except when Clarke and, in a different vein, Pocock were on. The over rate reflected the lethargy which seemed to have infected the fielding side. Hill finally holed out at mid-off, Pauline emerging from his reverie with a start to hold the catch at the second attempt.

As so often happens after a long stand, the end of one partner presaged the departure of the other. Hampshire went in the next over, top-edging a cut to Richards, and Fowler followed immediately to give Pocock further reward for his persistent accuracy.

SURREY: First Innings (C J Richards 109; G Miller 5 for 117).

Second Innings

G S Clinton l-b-w b Finney	10
D B Pauline not out	42
R D V Knight not out	40
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 2)	6
Total (1 wkt)	98

*A R Butcher, M A Lynch, A Needham, †C J Richards, D J Thomas, M A Feltham, S T Clarke and P I Pocock to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21.

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

*K J Barnett c Richards b Clarke	34
I S Anderson c Knight b Clarke	16
A Hill c Pauline b Pocock	89
J H Hampshire c Richards b Knight	66
G Miller c Richards b Clarke	15
W P Fowler b Pocock	1
R J Finney c Butcher b Needham	28
B Roberts c Pocock b Needham	8
P G Newman not out	19
†R W Taylor not out	13
Extras (b 1, l-b 1, n-b 10)	13
Total (8 wkts dec, 99.1 overs)	302

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-37, 2-69, 3-214, 4-218, 5-219, 6-257, 7-268, 8-272.

BOWLING: Clarke 22-9-47-3; Thomas 20-2-75-0; Feltham 13-1-39-0; Pocock 29-3-66-2; Knight 8-1-31-1; Needham 7.1-1-30-2.

Bonus points: Derbyshire 8, Surrey 7.

Umpires: W E Alley and J Birkenshaw.

All bustle and timing from Kallicharran

By Marcus Williams

NUNEATON: Lancashire, with six second innings wickets in hand, are 198 runs ahead of Warwickshire.

After Alvin Kallicharran has scored his fourth 100 in six first-class innings this season, sharing a second wicket stand of 174 with the dogged Andy Lloyd, who made 76, Warwickshire made a challenging declaration 116 runs behind Lancashire at Nuneaton yesterday.

If Warwickshire had planned to be set an inviting fourth innings target today, Old and then Willis, with two wickets in successive balls, temporarily spoiled the scheme before Abrahams and Fairbrother, missed early on at second slip, set about repairing the damage.

Fairbrother fell to Ferreira in the penultimate over. The success of the seam bowlers, who found life in the pitch, had come after Lancashire entrusted much of their bowling to the spinners.

Lancashire declared at their overnight total with the partnership between Abrahams and Simmons worth 224, and claimed Smith's wicket in the seventh over when Allott uprooted his off stump via the inside edge. Kallicharran, coming into the game with 522 runs and an average of 174, ominously cut his first ball crisply to the boundary.

Simmons joined the attack with his off-spin in the tenth over to begin the first of two long and accurate spells. Lloyd was tied down and had the additional burden of a heavy cold, which prevented him fielding later; but now and again he used his feet for the lofted drive, although this eventually proved his undoing when he was bowled head up, well down the pitch.

Kallicharan, meanwhile, was all bustle and sweet timing. He hooked Jefferies for six out of the ground and the Warwickshire 12th man had to climb a wall to retrieve the ball from private garden after the first ball,to be thrown back was found to be the relic of an earlier match. Fours flowed through the covers and as ever he was merciless on anything short.

Lloyd, when 55, was dropped at deep mid-on off the persevering Simmons, who later had his revenge

Kallicharran: fourth century

and the wicket of Kallicharan, who dragged theball on as he tried to cut. Amiss and Humpage punished everything loose as they added 55 before the declaration when the third batting point had been secured.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 369 for 5 dec (J Abrahams 201 not out, J Simmons 72 not out. Bowling: Willis 21-5-75-0; Old 29-7-88-1; Small 15-2-53-1; Gifford 28-11-69-1; Ferreira 24-9-50-2)

Second Innings

G Fowler c Humpage b Willis	18
S J O'Shaughnessy l-b-w b Old	8
*J Abrahams not out	27
D P Hughes c Humpage b Willis	0
N H Fairbrother c Humpage b Ferreira	19
P J W Allott not out	4
Extras (n-b 6)	6
Total (4 wkts)	82

D W Varey, J Simmons, S T Jefferies, S M N Zaidi and †C Maynard to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-31, 3-31, 4-76.

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings

T A Lloyd b Simmons	76
K D Smith b Allot	3
A I Kallicharran b Simmons	101
D L Amiss not out	34
†G W Humpage not out	27
Extras (l-b 5, w 1, n-b 6)	12
Total (3 wkts dec, 84.1 overs)	253

Asif Din, A M Ferrera, C M Old, G C Small, N Gifford and *R G D Willis did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-184, 3-197.

BOWLING: Allot 14-4-36-1; Jefferies 10-1-28-0; Simmons 31-8-66-2; O'Shaugnessy 5-2-13-0; Hughes 12.1-0-47-0; Abrahams 4-1-9-0; Zaidi 8-1-41-0.

Bonus points: Warwickshire 5, Lancashire 4.

Umpires: D O Oslear and A G T Whitehead.

Selectors line up Bairstow

England's selectors are considering recalling the Yorkshire captain and wicketkeeper David Bairstow for the thee one-day international matches against the West Indies when they meet today.

Bairstow, aged 32, has been ignored by England since a ragged performance in the Barbados Test on the 1981 tour of West Indies, but his aggressive middle order batting and infectious enthusiasm makes him the favourite to succeed Bob Taylor, if only temporarily.

● In the county championship yesterday, Alan Lewis Jones hit his maiden century as he and Hopkins compiled 240 runs for the first Glamorgan wicket against Gloucestershire at Cardiff. Glamorgan declared at 251 for one to trail by 35 on the first innings and by the close Gloucestershire had extended their lead to 107 for the loss of Romaines and Athey.

Only three wickets fell all day on a lifeless Cardiff pitch, with Jones (129) and Hopkins (116 not out) batting confidently throughout their marathon partnership.

A sixth wicket partnership of 122 in 30 overs by youngsters Whitaker and Garnham rescued Leicestershire from total collapse at New Road. After taking a first innings lead of 48 by dismissing Worcestershire for 174 – thanks largely to Parsons, who took five for 42- Leicestershire were struggling at 39 for five in their second innings.

Pridgeon took four for 22 in 12 overs and Warner claimed the wicket of the new England captain, Gower, for four.

Today's cricket

Tour match

Taunton: Somerset v West Indians (11.0 for 6.30)

County championship (11.0)

Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Surrey
Chelmsford: Essex v Nottinghamshire
Cardiff: Glamorgan v Gloucestershire
Lord's: Middlesex v Northamptonshire
Hove: Sussex v Hampshire
Nuneaton: Warwickshire v Lancashire
Worcester: Worcestershire v Leicestershire

Second XI championship

Old Trafford: Lancashire v Kent; Southgate: Middlesex v Sussex; Northampton: Northamptonshire v Leicestershire; Bristol: Somerset v Hampshire; The Oval: Surrey v Essex.

Lloyd and company go like a bomb

By Alan Gibson

TAUNTON: Somerset, with six second innings wickets in hand, are 137 behind the West Indians.

I managed to catch a train successfully at Bristol yesterday morning. The trouble was that it did not start. The guard, after some time, explained that this was because we were about to have "the controlled explosion of a wartime bomb" at Parson Street, a couple of miles down the line. Whether it ever went off, I did not discover, but ultimately we passed the spot in safety, thanks I am sure to a venerable clergyman whom I besought to pray. After all, I pointed out to him, it was his Street.

That was the most exciting thing that happened, until about the middle of the afternoon. The West Indians used the opportunity of a fine day and a sound pitch to get some practice. For this they could not be blamed, with so little time to get their men into form before the internationals start. Somerset were content to keep it tidy, relying mostly on spin.

Gomes batted well. Dujon did not last long but has already shown he is in form. The surprise package was Harper, who is obviously intent on making his way into the Test side. He had been sent in as nightwatchman, and batted neither rashly not strokelessly for his 73.

The sixth wicket fell at 244, the seventh at 259, Payne bowled by Marks. This was in the 98th over, so you will see that the crowd (a large one) had not had much to enthuse it so far. It might have had even less, for from the previous ball Lloyd should have been caught, a sharp one to be sure, at mid-on. The unfortunate fielder might have been an unsuccessful member of the Parson Street bomb disposal squad.

Somerset were batting again after tea, against Marshall and Small bowling at high speed in not particularly good light. Both Roebuck and Popplewell had soon edged themselves out, and at 30 Crowe was bowledl.

Rose was quickly out, and I began to think the match might be over on the day, but Wyatt, for the second time in the match, played with a security which belied his years, and reached his 50 in the last over, Marks cooly supporting him

SOMERSET: first Innings 116 (R A Harper 5 for 32)

Second Innings

J G Wyatt not out	50
P M Roebuck c Harper b Small	8
N F M Popplewell c Lloyd b Marshall	5
M D Crowe b Marshall	0
B C Rose l-b-w b Walsh	0
*V J Marks not out	17
Extras (b 1, l-b 3, w 1, n-b 4)	9
Total (4 wkts)	89

J W Lloyds, †T Gard, M R Davis, C H Dredge and P H L Wilson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-28, 3-30, 4-42.

WEST INDIANS: First Innings

D L Haynes c Gard b Crowe	20
R B Richardson c and b Marks	50
H A Gomes b Lloyds	72
A L Logie b Marks	0
R A Harper l-b-w b Dredge	73
P J Dujon c and b Popplewell	12
*C H Lloyd l-b-w b Dredge	72
†T R O Payne b Marks	1
M D Marshall c Popplewell b Wilson	34
M A Small not out	2
C A Walsh b Dredge	0
Extras (l-b 3, w 2, n-b 1)	6
Total	342

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-58, 2-86, 3-86, 4-184, 5-224, 6-244, 7-259, 8-336, 9-342, 10-342.

BOWLING: Wilson 17-4-58-1; Dredge 24.2-7-62-3; Crowe 10-1-54-1; Marks 36-13-103-3; Lloyds 22-8-59-1; Popplewell 1-1-0-1.

Umpires: D J Constant and D R Shepherd.

Glamorgan v Gloucs

AT CARDIFF

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First innings 286 for 4 dec (P W Romines 141 not out, P Bainbridge 67 not out. Bowling: Davis 19-5-36-2; Barwick 21-6-54-0; Selvey 18-5-39-0; Ontong 16-0-52-0; Steele 20-6-34-1; Price 14-1-53-1)

Second Innings

A W Stovold not out	34
P W Romaines b Davis	7
C W J Athey b Steele	12
Zaheer Abbas not out	11
Extras (b 1, l-b 1, n-b 6)	8
Total (2 wkts)	72

P Bainbridge, A J Wright, *D A Graveney, J N Shepherd, †R C Russell, C Dale and G E Sainsbury to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-39.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

J A Hopkins not out	116
A L Jones c Graveney, b Dale	129
R C Ontong	1
Extras (l-b 2, w 1, n-b 2)	5
Total (1 wkt dec, 81.5 overs)	251

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-240.

Younis Ahmed, S P Henderson, J F Steele, M R Price, †T Davies, W W Davis, S R Barwick and *M W W Selvey did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-240.

BOWLING: Shepherd 19-6-52-0; Sainsbury 17-2-64-0; Bainbridge 16-7-32-0; Graveney 19-4-54-0; Dale 10.5-1-44-1.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 4, Gloucestershire 3.

Umpires: D G L Evans and K E Palmer.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: City of Freemens 81, John Fisher 82-5; Gents of Essex 242-5 dec, Framlingham 244-7; Gents of Herts 200, Haberdashers Aske's, Elstree 93-9; Lloyds Register CC 222-5 dec, Pangbourne 49; MCC 189-7 dec, Bancrofts 98; Nuneaton 87, Abbot Beyne 90-4;

Middlesex v Northants

AT LORD'S

MIDDLESEX: First Innings 139 (B J Griffiths 5 for 52, A Walker 4 for 50).

Second Innings

G D Barlow l-b-w b Hanley	8
W N Slack L-b-w b Griffiths	17
*M W Gatting not out	65
K P Tomlins c Steele b Griffiths	0
R O Butcher b Walker	16
S P Hughes not out	0
Extras (l-b 6, n-b 4)	10
Total (4 wkts)	116

J E Emburey, P H Edmonds, †P R Downton, N G Cowans and W W Daniel to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-59, 3-63, 4-111.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

W Larkins l-b-w b Daniel	46
M J Bamber c Downton b Daniel	3
R G Williams l-b-w b Cowans	23
A J Lamb b Cowans	18
R J Bailey b Emburey	1
D J Wild c Barlow b Hughes	59
D S Steele b Edmonds	13
*G Sharp b Daniel	3
A Walker b Emburey	5
R W Hanley not out	2
B J Griffiths b Hughes	12
Extras (b 2, l-b 4, n-b 11)	17
Total (82.5 overs)	202

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-58, 3-90, 4-88, 5-109, 6-134, 7-139, 8-186, 9-190, 10-202.

BOWLING: Cowans 21-6-50-2; Daniel 21-11-21-3; Gatting 2-1-3-0; Edmonds 7-0-25-1; Hughes 9.5-2-36-2; Emburey 22-6-50-2.

Bonus points: Middlesex 4, Northamptonshire 6.

Umpires: J Hams and R A White.

Worcs v Leics

AT WORCESTER

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 222 (D I Gower 103)

Second Innings

I P Butcher c Patel b Pridgeon	13
J C Balderston c Weston b Pridgeon	5
*D I Gower c Illingworth b Warner	4
P Willey c McEvoy b Pridgeon	9
N E Briers c Patel b Pridgeon	0
M A Garnham l-b-w b Illingworth	74
†J J Whitaker c Warner b Pridgeon	61
G J Parsons b Patel	4
N G B Cook b Patel	6
J P Agnew not out	0
L B Taylor not out	0
Extras (l-b 9, n-b 6)	15
Total (9 wkts)	191

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-18, 3-28, 4-28, 5-39, 6-161, 7-180, 8-190, 9-190.

Worcestershire: First Innings

M S A McEvoy c Butchers b Taylor	22
M J Weston c Butcher b Taylor	54
*P A Neale c Butcher b Taylor	10
D N Patel c Willey b Agnew	2
D B d'Oliveira c Garnham b Parsons	29
R K Illingworth c Garnham b Parsons	0
†D J Humphries c Whitaker b Parsons	1
J D Inchmore b Agnew	28
A E Warner not out	14
A P Pridgeon b Parsons	1
T S Curtis absent hurt	0
Extras (b 1, w 3, n-b 9)	13
Total (51.2 overs)	174

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-59, 3-75, 4-128, 5-128, 6-129, 7-138, 8-173, 9-174.

BOWLING: Agnew 15-2-54-2; Taylor 13-4-22-2; Willey 1-0-1-0; Parsons 11.2-1-42-5; 11-2-42-0.

Bonus points: Worcestershire 4, Leicestershire 6.

Umpires: H D Bird and M J Kitchen.

Wells is pride of Sussex

By Richard Streeton

HOVE: Sussex, with four second innings wickets in hand, lead Hampshire by 98 runs.

Powerful driving by Colin Wells brought him a magnificent unbeaten 116 yesterday and dispersed the threat of a two-day defeat for Sussex. Facing first-innings arrears of 189, Sussex were 103 for three deep in the doldrums when Wells came and subdued the Hampshire attack on a pitch less helpful than it had been on Wednesday.

This was Wells's first championship hundred for two seasons. He was never afraid to loft the ball behind the bowler and he played his strokes with immense force and perfect timing. Near the end Greig fell to a brilliant one-handed catch at square leg and Hampshire must still be the most likely winners. Wells, though, has restored a measure of Sussex pride after their first innings failure.

A day when the sun turned English complexions lobster-red began with a tense prologue as Hampshire narrowly missed a fourth batting point. Cowley and Tremlett, resuming at 249 for seven, took runs freely before Reeve bowled Cowley and took a hot return catch at 298 from Reifer. Andrew did his bit by surviving five balls but Tremlett fell to Colin Wells in the next over. We were unaware, but it was a portent for the elder Wells' day.

Sussex made a promising start to their second innings before the boat was rocked when Mendis was out two balls before lunch. The distress calls went out in earnest when Barclay and Parker fell

Colin Wells, however, was in no mood to abandon ship and he dominated successive stands with Green and his brother Alan. Green, mixing good strokes with longer periods of inactivity, dabbed fatally at an outswinger after making 49.

Alan Wells succumbed to Cowley when Hampshire used spin for the first time after tea. Parks had a hand in both these wickets and has had a good match. You do not have to be older than the late forties to have seen both his father and grandfather in the Sussex colours and to continue to regret the circumstances that took the third generation away.

SUSSEX: First Innings 109 (T M Tremlett 4 for 26, S J W Andrew 4 for 30)

Second Innings

G D Mendis l-b-w b Reifer	32
A M Green c Parks b Nicholas	49
*J R T Barclay c Nicholas b Reifer	10
P W G Parker c Pocock b Reifer	11
C M Wells not out	116
A P Wells st Parks b Cowley	29
I A Greig c Maru b Cowley	19
D A Reeve not out	3
Extras (b 13, w 3, n-b 2)	18
Total (6 wkts)	287

†I J Gould, G S le Roux and C E Waller to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-59, 2-75, 3-103, 4-156, 5-239, 6-278.

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings

V P Terry l-b-w b Greig	75
C L Smith l-b-w b Greig	37
M C J Nicholas b Greig	0
T E Jesty run out	86
R J Maru c Gould b le Roux	9
*N E J Pocock b le Roux	1
N G Cowley b Reeve	37
†R J Parks c Gould b le Roux	0
T M Tremlett l-b-w b C M Wells	27
E L Reifer c and b Reeve	2
S J W Andrew not out	0
Extras (l-b 4, w 2, n-b 8)	14
Total (88.2 overs)	298

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-60, 2-62, 3-217, 4-218, 5-225, 6-247, 7-247, 8-293, 9-298, 10-298.

BOWLING: le Roux 21-4-61-3; Reeve 20-7-63-2; Greig 24-4-112-3; C M Wells 12.2-4-25-1; Waller 11-3-23-0.

Bonus points: Sussex 4, Hampshire 7.

Umpires: C Cook and P B Wight.

GOLF: FALDO'S JINX AND SOMETHING TO PLEASE THE PLAYERS

PGA tour qualifying exams may be dropped

By Mitchell Platts

The PGA European tour is on the threshold of following the American circuit and scrapping the weekly pre-qualifying examinations for tournaments which have become increasingly costly and impractical.

After two meetings this week it has become clear to officials that a majority of players are in favour of adopting an all-exempt tour and this is could become a reality before the Open championship in July.

What it means is that players will no longer be stranded in foreign countries, having failed in the pre-qualifying test which usually takes place on a Tuesday. More often than not these players have unchangeable air tickets and it is an expensive experience waiting to fly home and with no chance of making money.

The all-exempt tour, comprising players from special categories such as former Open champions, the leading 125 in the order of merit and the top 50 from an end-of-season qualifying school, would give a total number of 220 players if accepted.

It is felt that the player holding "ticket" number 220 would receive no fewer than nine opportunities to play out of the 27 events staged throughtout a season, in which a field usually consists of between 130 and 140.

Ken Schofield, executive director of the PGA Europen tour, said: "One of the meetings this week concerned the younger players on the tour and they seemed particularly keen to take this route. In fact, out of 82 signatures in the book no fewer than 78 were for the change."

Faldo has hopes of taming Wentworth

By Mitchell Platts

There are few happy memories for Nick Faldo to recall at Wentworth, but his record in the PGA championship suggests that he might make his presence felt on the Surrey course over the bank holiday weekend.

Faldo has won this important title, now sponsored by Whyte and Mackay, three times in the last six years, but his trials and tribulations at Wentworth have far from reflected his true ability.

There have been traumatic disasters, such as the loss of a world matchplay championship round against Sandy Lyle after he led by six holes at the halfway stage. Then there was the unhappy experience in the same event last October when his ball was either tossed or toe-ended back on to the green during a match with Graham Marsh which the Englishman eventually won.

Moreover, Faldo knows that his failure at Wentworth has been compounded by the fact that his leading rivals, Severiano Ballesteros and Greg Norman, have won no fewer than seven titles between them on this course in the last six years.

Ballesteros is not defending this year's event, which starts today, since he is pursuing his search for success in America where Norman, too, is continuing to compete. Faldo will be rejoining them in the Westchester Classic next month, preceding the US Open, and his aim is to return to America as the leader of the European order of merit which may require him to win the £25,000 first prize that is on offer this week.

After only two events on this side of the Atlantic, Faldo has slipped into third place, with £21,942. Only

Faldo: tribulations

Howard Clark (£27,945) and Sandy Lyle (£22,173) are above him. Clark, penalized two strokes in yesterday's pro-am for carrying one more than the mandatory 14 clubs in his bag, rested last week in order to have treatment for his recurring back problem. However he, too, has a sound record in the PGA championship although, also like Faldo, he has rarely found his best form at Wentworth.

The trouble is that Clark has too often tried to squeeze shots from the course through aggression rather than waiting patiently for things to happen. Certainly, whatever happens this weekend, there can be few who will have reason to criticize the course that has been prepared superbly for the championship.

SWIMMING

MAGDEBURG: East German championships: Men's 400m Medley: J-P Berndt 4min 19.61sec (World record). Women's 200m Freestyle: K Otto 1:57.75 (World record). Men's 100m Butterfly: T Dressler 53.84 (European record).

Miss Hall overpowers the holder

By John Hennessy

Clare Hall, an 18-year-old Newcastle player, emerged as the surprise packet of the English women's golf championship, sponsored by Chambourcy, at Hunstanton yesterday. She overpowered Jill Thornhill, holder of the British title by 5 and 4 in the second round, and so qualified to meet a second member of the British Isles Curtis Cup team, Laura Davies this morning.

It is a remarkable achievemennt in several respects for Miss Hall, the Northern champion. She has a congenital curvature of the spine and has had to suffer all the remedical hardships that that condition entails including encasement in a spinal jacket for nine months. She stands only 5ft 1¼in tall and her prospects looked correspondingly small in the first round. She had to fashion an eagle at the 17th to halve her match against Rosemary Watters and then chip in from what seemed an impossible position for a birdie at the 18th to win it.

There was, however, no fluke about her victory over Mrs Thornhill. She scored two birdies and was not once over par.

FIRST ROUND: P Grice bt J Pool, 5 and 4; C Swallow bt A Uzielli, 2 and 1; L Bayman bt A Saunders, at 19th; S Moorcraft bt C Scott, 4 and 2; L Davies bt N Holloway, 6 and 5; J Thornhill bt S White, 4 and 3; L Elliott bt D Christison, at 21st; C Hall bt R Watters, 1 hole; B New bt S Cowan, 3 and 2; L Fletcher bt C Griffiths, 1 hole; P Johnson bt J Hill, 2 and 1; C Caldwell bt M Elswood, 2 and 1; C White bt T Hammond, 2 and 1; J Brown bt L Percival, at 20th; J Dickens bt M Scollen, 1 hole; J Melville bt S Duhig, 3 and 2.

SECOND ROUND: Grice bt Swallow, 3 and 1; Davies bt Moorcraft, 1 hole; Hall bt Thornhill, 5 and 4; Bayman bt Elliott, 3 and 2; Johnson bt Caldwell, 3 and 2; New bt Fletcher, at 19th; Waite bt Brown, 6 and 5; Melville bt Dickens, 5 and 4.

● Wilma Aitken, of Old Ranfurly replaces Jane Connachan as second reserve for the British Isles Curtis Cup team to meet the United States. Miss Aitken played in the Curtis Cup match in 1982.

TENNIS

Miss Durie slips as top seed sails on

Perugia, Italy (AP) – Chris Lloyd, the top seed from the United States, and Andrea Temesvari, the defending champion from Hungary, will meet today in the quarter-finals of the Italian women's open.

Joanna Durie and Kathy Horvath, seeded second and third respectively, were beaten yesterday. Miss Durie lost in straight sets to Vicky Nelson, of the United States, and Miss Horvath lost a more evenly contested match to Rafaella Reggi, of Italy.

Mrs Lloyd beat Anna Maria Cecchini, of Italy, 6-4, 6-2 in the previous round, while Miss Temesvari beat Sabrina Goles, of Yugoslavia, 6-2, 6-4.

In the other quarter-finals, Raffaella Reggi, a local favourite, meets Lisa Bonder, of the United States, while Carling Bassett, of Canada, plays Yvonne Vermaak, of South Africa, and Manuela Maleeva, of Bulgaria, meets Virginia Ruzici, of Romania.

In Duesseldorf, West Germany, John McEnroe untroubled by a three-hour interruption for rain notched his thirty-fourth consecutive victory by beating Jose Luis Clerc, 6-3, 6-3, to put the United States 1-0 ahead of Argentina in the Ambre Solaire World Team Cup, yesterday.

It was McEnroe's first victory over Clerc on clay, following two Davis Cup defeats, in 1980 and 1983. The turning point came when McEnroe broke Clerc's service to take a 5-3 lead in the first set.

● Greg Whitecross, the world-ranked Australian and favourite to win the Penn Paddington International Tournament in West London this week, has threatened to quit the game if his results don't improve following his shock defeat in the third round yesterday. The 23-year old from Melbourne, on the circuit for six year lost 7-5, 6-0 to Mark Blincow, from Northamptonshire.

MEN'S SINGLES: Third round: (British unless stated): M Blincow bt G Whitecross (Aus), 7-5, 6-0; J Whiteford bt C Bloxham 6-2, 7-5; L Alfred bt J Godfrey, 6-3, 7-5; D Felgate bt P Tibbs (Uga), 6-0, 6-2; R Akel (US) bt S Moir, 6-3, 6-4; M Guntrip bt R Jeffreys, 6-2, 6-4; O Lourenco (Zim), bt H McGuines 6-3, 6-1; B Carmichael (Aus), bt S Matthews 7-6, 6-7, 6-3.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: K Brasher bt J Reeves 6-1, 6-3; K Schimper (SA) bt L Geeves, 1-6, 6-1, 6-1; E Oxrieder (US) bt R Dold (SA), 6-1, 6-0; M Reinach (SA) bt L Gracie, 6-3, 6-2; J Richardson (NZ) bt Yokoo (Jap), 6-1, 7-6; B Cordwell (NZ) bt A Danila (Rom), 6-0, 7-6; S Yonezawa (Jap) bt S Whiteman, 6-3, 7-6.

OLYMPIC GAMES

US pay for bigger Irish team

By George Ace

Cuba's defection from the Los Angeles Olympics has brought joy to Irish boxing. At a cost of £2,000 a boxer, the Irish Olympic Council were not expected to ratify the participation at the Games of more than four, or possibly five, of the panel nominated by the standing committee of the IABA. But now, with the Americans offering to foot the bill for the boxers who would have been eliminated from the panel, the numerical strength of the Irish in Los Angeles will be at least eight and possibly nine.

An official of the IABA confirmed yesterday that an approach had been made by the United States officials requesting that in the event of the Cuban withdrawal would Ireland be prepared to at least double their team and a reply was sent in the affirmative.

With the Eastern block countries supporting the Moscow boycott, the boxing programme has been seriously depleted and the non-participation of the Cubans – their decision to support the Russians was announced yesterday – has added considerably to the worries of the organizers.

The eight boxers nominated by the standing committee in order of merit are: 1, Kiernan Joyce (welter); 2, Gerry Hawkins (light-fly); 3, Phil Sutcliffe (bantam); 4, Sam Storey (light-middle); 5, Paul Fitzgerald (feather); 6, Paul Larkin (lightweight); 7, Tommy Corr (middleweight); 8, Billy Walsh (light-welter).

Earlier this week the Ulster council of the IABA nominated Roy Nash, of the St MAry Club, Derry, for the flyweight spot and the portents are that the 18-year-old Derry boxer's name will be added to the panel. The IOC are expected to confirm the nine man panel early next week.

REAL TENNIS: Chris Ronaldson, the world champion, gave England victory over the rest of the world in the deciding match with rubbers level at 3-3 at Queen's Club yesterday. He defeated Wayne Davies, of Australia, the New York professional, whose second challenge for his title had been accepted for next March.

RESULTS: A C Lovell bt P Tabley 6-2, 6-6, 6-3; D C Johnson lost C J Lumley 4-6, 5-6, 2-6; B Toates lost to L Deucher 5-6, 5-6, 6-3; C J Ronaldson bt W F Davies 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

POLO

Gracida at the gallop

By John Watson

Once again the Argentines have not been invited to the British polo scene. Since 1982 the gaps, which they left in the top teams, have largely been filled by a sporting and popular nucleus of New Zealanders.

The season looks like being a vintage one for high-goal polo. A record 11 teams, including one from Spain, have entered for the British Open championship for the Gold Cup (July 4-22), which will be preceded, as usual, by the Queen's Cup (June 3-10) and the Warwickshire Cup (June 24-July 1). The Guards Club's great annual jamboree international day sponsored by Cartier will be on July 29.

When the high-goal season was launched at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, yesterday on the Guards Club's No 2 ground, Julian Hipwood's place in the line-up of Guy Wildenstein's Les Diables Bleus was taken by Ruben Gracida, of Mexico. Les Diables faced another 20-goal team, Chopendoz (put together by Bryan Morrison) for the Aramis Trophy. Les Diables won by eight goals to seven.

Chopendoz's back, Robert Graham (handicap six), who last Saturday flew in from Argentina where he is domiciled, opened the account and by the end of the first chukka the score was two-all. In this fast galloping, level pegging match, marking was close and none of the stars – Horswell or Gracida for Les Diables, or Graham or the New Zealander, Devcich, for Chopendoz – were permitted much free-run.

The last chukka commenced with 6-6 on the scoreboard. A beautiful cut shot from Graham then put Chopendoz up. But Horswell scored from a 60 yarder to equalize. Les Diables' winning shot was from a goalmouth penalty in the last minute of the game.

LES DIABLES BLEUS: 1, Guy Woldenstein (3), 2, R Gracida (37), 3, J Horswell (6), back, Prince of Wales (4).

CHOPENDOZ: 1, B Morrison (2), 2, R Walt (5), 3, T Devcich (7), back, R Graham (6).

YACHTING

Finns set trial for selectors

The Finn sailors, Mike McIntyre and Roddy Bridge, continued to pose problems for the selectors in the Olympic week at Weymouth (Adrian Morgan writes). It was McIntyre's turn yesterday, winning from Bridge after yet another epic battle. With three races remaining, the pair are separated by the narrowest of margins.

In the Flying Dutchman class, Richards and Allam's third win in the series gives them a healthy lead over their nearest rivals, Turner and Richardson. Rodney Pattisson's chances of an Olympic place are fading rapidly.

RESULTS (GB unless stated): Tornado, 5th race: 1, D Sweeney and I Sweeney (Can); 2, Y Loday and B Pichery (Fr); 3, D King and N Whittaker. Star, 4th race: 1, C Beeshel and R Coxon; 2, J Boyce and D Munge; 3, I Woolward and J Maddocks. Finn, 4th race: 1, M McIntyre; 2, R Bridge; 3, J Greenwood. 470s, 4th race: 1, M Holmes and O Stewart; 2, C Foster and P Newlands; 3, I Brewer and M Cherrimar; 5th race: 1, I Southworth and I Tillett; 2, D Derby and C McLaughlin; 3, O Jarrett and I Jarrett. Flying Dutchman, 5th race: J Richards and P Allam; 2, D Wilkins and R Phillips; 3 J Turner and K Richardson.

● The tenth Tomatin trophy series got under way last night with another record entry (John Nicholls writes).

IN BRIEF

Barlow heads mission

South Africa is stepping up its campaign to be accepted in international sport by sending Eddie Barlow, their former Test cricketer, to London as the first director of a Sports Office.

The position has been established jointly by the South African Olympic Council, the rugby board and the cricket union – without, is is said, direct reference to the national Government.

Barlow, a former captain of Derbyshire, has to convince a largely sceptical world that South African sport has achieved the degree of normality demanded of it.

"Initially there's a time-scale on the job of two to three years, but I hope it will become open-ended until the objective has been achieved", he told an English Rugby Writers Club lunch, in Cape Town yesterday.

"One would like to achieve the acceptance of South African sport back into the world arena but it might well go further than that. Sport today is in such a terrible mess and we have all lost completely the objectives of various boycotts."

CYCLING: Urs Freuler, of Switzerland, won yesterday's 226-km stage of the Giro D'Italia amid some controversy. The 160 riders approached the finishing line slowly, as an agreed protest at the lack of signposting and bad lighting in one of the tunnels. But with a few metres to go, Freuler ignored the signals of his rivals and spurted forward to win. Francesco Moser remains the overall race leader.

HANDBALL: Liverpool, the holders, will meet Carlesberg MK'80 in the final of the British Cup in Bristol on June 9, (Paul Harrison writes). Carlsberg, the Midlands League and Cup champions beat Tryst 177, from Scotland, 26-20 at the weekend. The women's final will be contested by Robert Jenkins, the holders, and Halewood Forum.

BASKETBALL: Canada, Brazil and Uruguay are through to the Olympic Games final stages in Los Angeles. With one round left in the western hemisphere pre-Olympic basketball tournament, they cannot be caught in the points table.

SWIMMING: Dirk Richter, of East Germany, broke the men's European 200 metres backstroke record yesterday when he clocked 1:59.80.

RUGBY UNION

England are unsettled by a crop of injuries

From David Hands
Rugby Correspondent
Cape Town

Injuries, the bane of the last two British Lions tours, have crept somewhat insidiously into the England party and disrupted preparations for the match against Western Province at Newlands tomorrow. Dodge, the most experienced threequarter in the party, is unfit as is Rendall, the Wasps prop forward, while two more players, though selected, have yet to be declared fit.

Dodge twisted his left ankle in training on Tuesday and left the field during Wednesday's game against the Porteas when he found the injury hindering his movement. It is hoped that by resting him this weekend he will be available to be selected in the side for the first international tomorrow week.

In his absence Davies moves to centre, where he has played most of his recent international rugby. This is hard on the promising Burnhill, who did nothing wrong in his first game in an England jersey on Wednesday but was given little opportunity to develope his attacking potential. He remains something of an unknown quantity for a match where England will need all the experience they can muster.

Rendall has a bruised right calf and the selectors' encouraged by Preedy's game in the tight and loose at Stellenbosch, have resisted the temptation to play Blakeway on the loose-head and Pearce at tight – head and have chosen instead the Gloucester front row. Whether the 23-year-old Preedy has the skill to cope with Du Toit, eight years his senior and capped three times, remains to be seen.

Scott, the captain, also has a sprained left ankle sustained against the Proteas. He did not train with the rest of the party at the Newlands Stadium – neither did Dodge nor Rendall – and his injury is more worrying in that he had operations on both ankles two years ago and they are not as strong as once they were.

However, he is chosen for his third successive game, as are Bailey and Butcher, and will partner Fidler against the massive Province locks, Bekker and Markgraaff. Fidler, the likeable Gloucestershire policeman, went down late in the morning's training yesterday with a tweaked hamstring and he too must prove his fitness. Bailey has suffered a dead leg but is expected to play.

The management have not yet reached the stage where they are sending for reinforcements but Derek Morgan, the team manager, has been in touch with Twickenham and has asked certain players to stand by. A dozen players were advised to keep fit in case of emergencies and one imagines that if a centre were required Barley of Wakefield would be first choice and Widdecombe of Newport in the event of a lock being sent for.

Hill, the Bath scrum half, already appears to have established himself ahead of Youngs, a situation which may have been assisted by the move of Davies to centre and the consequent selection of Horton, also of Bath, at stand-off half. Tomorrow's game against a side containing six Springboks will be refeered by Steve Strydom, who officiated in the first tour game last Saturday.

ENGLAND XV: W HAre (Leicester); D Trick (Bath), H Davies (Wasps), J Palmer (Bath), M Bailey (Wasps); J Horton (Bath), R Hill (Bath); M Preedy, S Mills, P Blakeway (all Gloucester), J Hall (Bath), J Scott (Cardiff, captain), J Fidler (Gloucester), P Winterbottom (Headingley), C Butcher (Harlequins). Replacements: N Stringer (Wasps), S Burnhill (Loughborough University), N Youngs (Leicester), G Pearce (Northampton), S Brain (Coventry), D Cusani (Orrell).

ATHLETICS

Thompson well short of his target

By Pat Butcher

Daley Thompson's only decathlon before the Olympics is unlikely to produce the world record he was hoping for, following a disappointing high jump of 1.87 metres on the first day of competition in Los Angeles.

Thompson's high jump is 16 centimetres off his best, and was the biggest shortfall in his first-day total of 4,331 points, which needed to be some 200 points better to have any chance of beating Jorgen Hingsen's world record of 8,779 points, set last year.

Thompson's first three events in the Drake Stadium – the 100 metres in 10.54sec, the long jump on 7.64 metres, and a personal best shot put of 15.66 metres – had given him an excellent start. Then his high jump – and a 400 metres in 48.17sec, half a second worse than he would expect in a decathlon, left him on his worst first-day total in four years. Lying second on 4,139 points is Dave Steen, the Canadian who beat Thompson in an indoor pentathlon three months ago.

Steve Ovett and Fatima Whitbread, who, like Thompson, have already been selected for the Olympics, are enjoying differing fortunes. Ovett has had a bout of bronchitis, which could keep him out of the 800 metres Olympic trials at Crystal Palace on June 6.

BOXING

Cable's chance to wipe out a painful memory

Toulouse (Reuter) – Jimmy Cable, of Orpington, seeks to ease the painful memory of last month's humiliating defeat by Buster Drayton of the United States, when he meets Said Skouma, of France, for the vacant European light-middleweight title here today.

Cable, knocked out in 85 seconds by Drayton in London on April 11, is chasing the title vacted by Herol Graham, of Sheffield, who could no longer make the weight limit.

Skouma, who is the oldest on nine children in a family which came to France from Casablanca, has won 12 of his 13 professional bouts inside the distance. He was twice previously the national amateur welterweight champion.

Skouma's main drawback is his lack of professional ring experience, but he is a determined fighter. "Cable is rough and rugged but he is open to right hands, which is good for me" Skouma said.

RACING

Karkan to keep in Hunt with another victory

By Mandarin

Guy Harwood's Karkan could not have made a more impressive start to his racing career, quickening clear in the final furlong to beat Tocave by three lengths on 1,000 Guineas Day at Newmarket. Even the handicapper took note, allocating the Caro colt a hefty 8st 9lb in next month's Royal Hunt Cup.

So Karkan looks a good proposition to follow up successfully in todays' Willows Stakes at Haydock Park with Tony Clark, who rode him so well on his dobut, again in the saddle.

The form of that Newmarket race over a mile has been working out well, too, with Tocave going on to a facile on to a success at Yarmouth and the sixth-placed horse, Mighty Flutter, winning in good style at Newbury last Satyrday.

The Michael Jarvis-trained Blaze Ahead has been shaping with promise and at Warwick last month was a creditable third behind Timber Merchant, with the dual scorer Bishop's Ring Racing back in seventh place. But it will be a major surprise if Karkan is beaten.

Paul Cole's Joyful Dancer has taken a steep rise in the weights since his Newbury Spring Cup victory and may come off second best against Ismore in the seven-furlong John Davies Handicap. Nelson Guest's four-year-old stayed on strongly to finish runner-up to Deputy Head in a competitive six-furlong handicap at Newbury on Saturday and should be suited by today's extra furlong.

Henry Cecil's Maldoror was odds-on to make a winning first appearance at Redcar earlier this month, but failed to withstand the challenge of Michael Stoute's Wytfa. Maldoror should go one better in the Newton Maiden Stakes at the expense of another Newmarket challenger, Dawning.

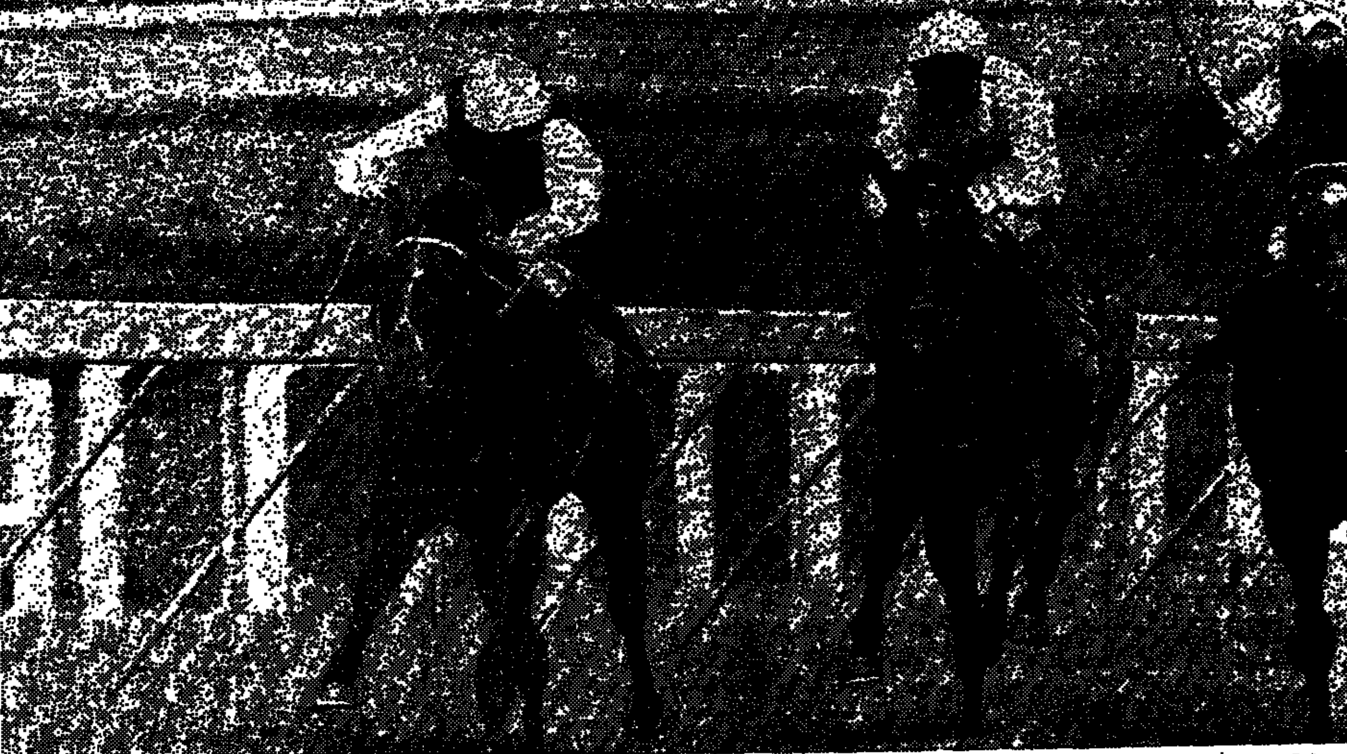
The Harry Thomson Jones stable had struck form with a vengeance and his well-bred filly Balqis is expected to score at the first time of asking in the St Helens Maiden Fillies Stakes.

The best bet at Pontefract may be Oakwood Park in the Cedar Maiden Stakes. This daughter of Balidar did not win as a two-year-old, but put up several useful performances, notably on her final appearance when she finished a close-up third behind Michael Stoute's Oaks candidate, Optimistic Lass, in a six-furlong event at Newmarket.

That form reads better than anything her rivals have achieved, and Oakwood Park is napped to open her account. The Cecil representative, Lady Tippins, was a close second at Lingfield in August, looks the one to chase her home.

Bill O'Gorman's Adelphai scored her first success when readily making all to beat Miss Loving at Windsor on Monday evening and can complete a speedy double in the Yorkshire Racing Club Stakes.

At Ayr, Jeremy Hindley's Top Ranker should be on the mark in the Prestwick Selling Stakes, while Handsome Blaze, three times successful over a mile at Ayr, could be the answer to the tricky Millbrae Handicap.



Lester Piggott and Miss Beaulieu landing the Lupe Stakes in style at Goodwood yesterday. (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Miss Beaulieu boost for Pebbles

By John Karter

The man wearing the broadest smile after yesterday's Lupe Stakes at Goodwood was not Geoff Wragg, the trainer of the winner, Miss Beaulieu, but Clive Brittain, who trains Pebbles, the 1,000 Guineas heroine.

Miss Beaulieu had finished only seventh to Pebbles in the Newmarket classic (another Wragg filly, Glowing With Pride, was eleventh then and also won her next race), so Brittain must know that if Pebbles stays the Oaks trip, of which he personally has no doubts, she must have a chance second to none at Epsom.

As for Miss Beaulieu herself, she did her job smoothly enough in the hands of Lester Piggott, holding the challenge of Celtic Assembly with more in reserve than the official margin of threequarters of a length. However, Wragg's first remark afterwards – "She did it well, but is it really Oaks form?" – seemed to put the victory perfectly into perspecitive.

Wragg added that this main problem now would be finding a jockey for Miss Beaulieu, who is quoted at between 16-1 and 20-1 for the Oaks, so clearly Piggott had been even more monsyllabic than usual in his post-race précis. It must be on the cards, therefore, that when "Old Poker Face" finally reveals his Oaks hand, his ace will be Circus Plume, on whom he won at Newbury last week.

John Dunlop, who trains Circus Plume, and has another Oaks candidate in Out Of Shot, said that Celtic Assembly would not be joining that pair in the classic. However Ian Balding, who trains Troyanna, the third horse home, indicated that his filly might well be there.

Piggott, incidentally, came in for two unexpected rides yesterday when Greville Starkey took the day off to go for further treatment on the trapped nerve that kept him out of the saddle for some four weeks. Starkey hopes to resume tomorrow.

Many onlookers thought that Piggott had made the most of the first of those chance rides when he drove Royal Yacht past the post stride for stride with Kingsfold Swift in the Ripolin Paints Stakes. The photograph, however, showed that Brian Rouse, who could yet renew his association with Alphabatim, the Derby second favourite, if Starkey's injury continues to trouble him, had managed to inch Kingsfold Swift into the lead in the very last stride.

Nearly everyone on the course seemed to know that Maysara, the other mount that Piggott took over from Starkey, was a certainty for the Raughmere Stakes. Everyone, it seemed, except the horse himself, who could finish only third to Torwar after having every chance.

The winner, who was having his first run ever, was backed down from 20-1 to 8-1 and looked something special as Darrel McHargue brought him past about a dozen horses in the final furlong to win going away. McHargue is a joy to watch as he crouches quiet as a church mouse against a horse's neck. And like his better-known countryman Steve Cauthen, he has that knack of making horses run for him with very little effort.

EQUESTRIANISM

Royal hopes for reign at Windsor trials

By Jenny MacArthur

Captain Mark Phillips, who returned from the United States on Tuesday night after finishing third in the Lexington International three-day event, rides the 10-year-old, Fieldsman, in the Windsor Horse Trials, sponsored by the TI Group, which begins today on the new site of the Prince of Wales Field just below the Copper Horse Inn, Windsor Great Park.

Princess Anne, who helped to design the new cross-country course, will not be competing because her horse, Mission Lake, has injured himself, but she will attend the trials in her role as president and will present the prizes on Sunday afternoon.

After the recent rain, the going at Windsor is perfect for the 130 riders who start out on their dressage today. Two who will provide a strong challenge for Captain Phillips are Rodney Powell, who finished eighth at Badminton, and who today rides Catkin of Rushall, the winner of the novice section at the Tidworth Trials and Nigel Taylor, an Olympic "long-listed" rider who competes on Rodimore Maytime and Beech Autumn.

Taylor's former mount, Milton Tyson, teams up with his new rider Roland Lloyd-Thomas in the junior section of the trials, the TI Creda British Junior Championships in which the strong favourite is Melanie Gurdon, from Suffold, with The Done Thing.

Lucinda Green, who has just returned from winning the Punchestown Horse Trials, in Ireland, has had to withdraw Encounter because he is coughing. Also missing from today's starters is Christopher Bartle, the Olympic short-listed dressage rider, who said yesterday that "considerable pressure" had been put on him not to compete in case he injured himself before the final Olympic dressage trial at Goodwood, next weekend.

HAYDOCK PARK

GOING: firm
Draw advantage: 6f, over: Low numbers best
Tote double: 3.0, 4.0. Treble: 2.30, 3.30, 4.30

2.0 ST HELENS MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-y-o: £1,917: 5f) (5 runners)
1 ARRAN BAY (P Mills) M Ryan 8-11 ....W Carson 2
2 BALQIS (Hamdan Al Maktoum) Thomson Jones 8-11 ....A Murray 1
3 BOLD KELLY (Mrs V McKinney) H Collingridge 8-11 ....A Barclay 3
11 MISS JOANNE (F Tyldesley) H Wharton 8-11 ....D Nicholls 5
14 RAHASH (HH Prince Yazid Saud) R Sheather 8-11 ....R Cochrane 4
1983: Red Line Fever 8-11 B Raymond (6-1) M Jarvis 9 ran.
4-5 Balqis 3 Arron Boy, 5 Rahash, 12 Bold Kelly, 14 Miss Joanne.

Haydock selections

By Mandarin
2.0 Balqis. 2.30 Some Jet. 3.0 Karkan. 3.30 Ismore. 4.0 Maldoror. 4.30 Indian Sign.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Balqis. 2.30 Mr Music Man. 3.0 Blaze Ahead. 3.30 Ismore. 4.0 Maldoror. 4.30 Aldhabyih.

2.30 LOWTON SELLING HANDICAP (£1,404: 1m 2f 131yd) (13)
1 230000- AIRSHIP (S Lowe) J Bradley 6-10-0 ....W Morris 7 5
3 4-33d32 SAFFRON POSER (M Bloor) J Berry 4-9-0 ....S Horsfall 5 9
4 000-100 MR MUSIC MAN (CD) (Mrs C Reavey) Mrs C Reavey 10-8-13 ....J Reid 1
5 20024/ LADY BOUNTY (J Archer) R Hollinshead 5-8-13 ....S Perks 11
6 0000-00 WAHED (F Watson) F Watson 8-8-13 ....M Fry 12
9 401-000 LADY EVER-SO-SURE (C) (B) (Eversure Textiles) J Etherington 6-8-11 B Raymond 13
12 40210-0 SOME JET (Miss P Kissock-Smith) C Crossley 6-8-8 ....S Webster 2
14 000/000 POLEMISTIS (B) (Mrs M James) M James 5-8-4 ....M Fozzard 7 3
15 0/00-00 MATTS MUSIC (Hargreaves Vending) K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-4 T Quinn 3 8
16 /330-40 FORESTERS BOY (W Chaney) W Haigh 7-8-3 ....B Crossley 10
17 60000-0 SHARP STAR (B Snooks) G Blum 6-8-2 ....G Duffield 7
21 10000-0 ACUSHLA MACREE (B) (R Houghton) R Houghton 7-8-2 ....Sherry Cooper 7
22 000-000 HAVEN'S PRIDE (CD) (B) (G Syvret) M James 5-8-2 ....W Carson 6
1983: Mr Music Man 9-9-6 T Rogers (7-2 fav) Mrs C Reavey 16 ran.
7-2 Lady Ever-So-Sure, 4 Saffron Poser, 5 Acushla Macree, Matts Music, 6 Some Jet, 8 Mr Music Man, Lady Bounty, 12 others.

3.0 WILLOWS STAKES (3-y-o: £2,666: 1m 40yd) (8)
2 1 KARKAN (A Salman) G Harwood 9-10 ....A Clark 5
8 03 BLAZE AHEAD (Tjo Tek Tan) M Jarvis 9-0 ....B Raymond 7
9 0-0 CATCH THE THATCH (W H Jones) D H Jones 9-0 ....A Barclay 8
13 23204-0 FENCHURCH COLONY (D Brotherton) M H Easterby 9-0 ....M Birch 1
19 00- SILVER PROSPECT (R Bullivant) R Hollinshead 9-0 ....S Perks 4
20 040- TIMURS DOUBLE (Ld Leverhulme) R Houghton 9-0 ....J Reid 6
24 0-30 CAMBRIDGE LODGE (Qualitair Engineering) K Stone 8-11 ....C Dwyer 3
25 040-030 LAXAY (A Snipe) M Leach 8-11 ....D Nicholls 2
1983: Seymour Hicks 9-10 B Raymond (7-4 fav) J Dunlop 13 ran.
2-5 Karkan, 7 Cambridge Lodge, 8 Blaze Ahead, 10 Fenchurch Colony, 16 Timurs Double, Laxay, 33 others.

FORM: KARKAN (9-0) pushed out to beat Tocave (9-0), winner since, 3l at Newmarket (8f, £4,075, good to firm, May 3, 20 ran). BLAZE AHEAD (9-0) 2½l 3rd of 18 in Warwick maiden (8f, £1,115, firm, Apr 24). CATCH THE THATCH (9-0) was 8th, nearest at finish. FENCHURCH COLONY (9-0), bit backward, hampered in running when 8th to Faridour at Pontefract (8f, £2,612, firm, May 14, 20 ran). CAMBRIDGE LODGE last of 15 (9-0) to Pebbles (9-0) in 1000 Guineas last time, previously 5½l 3rd (8-5) to Prince Reguas (8-10) at Thirsk (8f, £4,870, good, Apr 14, 9 ran).
Selection: KARKAN.

3.30 JOHN DAVIES HANDICAP (£3,303: 7f 40yd) (9)
6 030-120 JOYFUL DANCER (BF) (D How) P Cole 4-9-7 ....T Quinn 3 7
8 0-00002 ISMORE (T Upton) W Guest 4-9-5 ....G Dickie 7 4
10 30002-0 HOLLOWAY WONDER (D Rowland) B McMahon 4-9-4 ....R Cochrane 2
14 1-04100 TOP O'TH' LANE (CD) (R Coulton) N Bycroft 7-9-1 ....P Cook 9
15 200-000 SKYBOOT (Mrs B Robinson) C A Bell 5-9-1 ....W R Swinburn 6
16 4320-00 FAIR MADAME (B) (D Harding) C Booth 4-8-12 ....B McGiff 7 3
18 02403-0 TREE FELLA (C Crossley) C Crossley 7-8-9 ....T Ives 8
18 4000-40 ROYABER (C Buckley) D H Jones 6-8-5 ....A Barclay 1
21 000400 ADJUSTED (H Yates) R Hollinshead 5-8-0 ....W Ryan 5 5
1983: Kano Flower 4-8-1 P Colquhoun (5-2) I Walker 8 ran.
5-2 Joyful Dancer, 3 Ismore, 4 Royaber, 5 Holloway Wonder, 8 Top O'Th' Lane, Skyboot, 12 others.

FORM: JOYFUL DANCER 8l 5th to Teleprompter (9-9) won Newbury Handicap (8-0) by 2½l from Basil Boy (9-0) (8f, £6,607, good, Apr 14, 21 ran). ISMORE (8-9) ran on to be 2l 2nd to Deputy Head (9-4) at Newbury when HOLLOWAY WONDER (8-8) was last of 18 (6f, £,246, good May 19). TREE FELLA about 6l 6th (8-6) to Kathred (9-1) over 6f this season, final start in 1983 was 1l 3rd (8-5) to Anstruther (9-7) over 7f here, with TOP O'TH' LANE 7l 5th (8-7) to ROMOSS (8-12) last time, (8-8) had SKYBOOT (8-6) over 4l back in 8th when scoring over course and distance (£2,784), firm, Apr 21, 16 ran).
Selection: ISMORE.

4.0 NEWTON MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £2,782: 1m 4f) (13)
1 ARGES (J McCaughey) R Hollinshead 9-0 ....S Perks 3
2 0-44 ASH FAIR (BF) (D Harrison) A Bailey 9-0 ....P Bloomfield 5 10
4 0 BRADFORD (B McNeill) A Stewart 9-0 ....W R Swinburn 12
6 40020-4 CONNAUGHT PRINCE (K Fischer) W Hastings-Bass 9-0 ....T Ives 1
7 00- DANCING GUY (Baldale Bloodstock) M Jarvis 9-0 ....B Raymond 11
9 GALLOIS BOSQUET (J Acklam) S Norton 9-0 ....J Lowe 4
12 30-340 HODNET (Ld Leverhulme) R Houghton 9-0 ....J Reid 2
14 322-030 LITTLE LOOK (BF) (S Niarchos) G Harwood 9-0 ....A Clark 6
15 2 MALDOROR (BF) (D Wildenstein) H Cecil 9-0 ....Paul Eddery 8
16 0-00 MALIBU BEACH (D Harrison) E Eldin 9-0 ....A Mackay 9
18 REED PLAYER (K Abdulla) W Elsey 9-0 ....C Dwyer 5
28 3 DAWNING (Mrs P Harris) L Cumani 8-11 ....D McHargue 13
32 04-42 SILENT DANCER (BF) (G Vigors) 8-11 ....P Cook 7
1983: Shenton Way 9-0 B Raymond (5-1) M Jarvis 10 ran.
5-2 Maldoror, 7-2 Dawning, Little Look, 15-2 Silent Dancer, 10 Connaught Prince, Hodnet Reed Player, 16 Ash Fair, 20 others.

FORM: AS FAIR (8-8) 4½l 4th th Herradura (8-8) at Hamilton (1m 3f, £1,039, firm, May 11). CONNAUGHT PRINCE (9-0) under 3l 4th of 15 to Bishop's Ring (9-0) at Nottingham (1m 2f £1,955, firm, May 1). HODNET (8-5) beaten over 16l when 9th of 121 to Trapeze Artist (9-5) at Chester (1m 4f, £3,830, good to firm, May 9). LITTLE LOOK (9-0) over 11l 8th of 20 to Mighty Flutter (9-0) at Newbury (1m 3f, £2,784, good, May 19). MALADOROR (8-5) 1½l 2nd of 13 to Wytfa (8-5) at Redcar (1m 2f, £1,770, firm, May 8). SILENT DANCER (8-11) had DAWNING (8-11) 1l behind when beaten a head by HearsBelt (8-11) at Salisbury (1m 4f, £1,104, firm, May 9).
Selection: LITTLE LOOK

4.30 CLUB HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,847: 6f) (11)
2 4120- ALDHABYIH (Hamdan Al Maktoum) Thomson Jones 9-7 ....A Murray 8
3 0233-00 RAILROAD LADY (N Chapman) R Hollinshead 9-6 ....S Perks 5
4 02131- MELAURA BELLE (D) (Maj P Bell) T Barron 9-4 ....B Raymond 11
5 00-0100 SUPER TRIP (D) (J Maxwell) G Hunter 9-4 ....P Cook 7
6 122-004 KNIGHTS SECRET (D) (N Westbrook) M H Easterby 9-2 ....M Birch 1
10 41010- ITALIAN SECRET (G Ferrigno Ltd) B McMahon 8-12 ....R Cochrane 3
13 00002-2 STYLOGRAM (D Needham) J Etherington 8-11 ....M Wood 4
14 20010-0 JACORAN (D) (D Gorton) E Eldin 8-10 ....A Mackay 2
15 0-1 INDIAN SIGN (D) (Ld Derby) J W Watts 8-9 ....W Carson 9
18 000-30 WALTER-KOHRING (P Scott) M Ryan 8-8 ....A Bond 10
20 000-0 MY SON MY SON (B) (D McIntyre) K Brassey 8-2 ....G Duffield 6
1983: Silager 9-1 W Carson (11-4 jt-fav) M W Easterby 9 ran.
5-2 Indian Sign, 100-30 Knights Secret, 9-2 Stylogram, 7 Aldhabyih, 8 Melaura Belle, Jacoran, 10 Italian Secret, 12 others.

FORM: MELAURA BELLE (8-3) ½l winner from Ideal Home (8-3) at York (6f, £9,143, soft, Oct 7, 16 ran). SUPER TRIP (8-9) 7l 8th to Lily Bank (7-11) last time, previously, 7l 6th (8-4) to Miami Prince (7-9) at Newcastle when RAILROAD LADY (8-6) was 15th of 16 (6f, £820, good to firm, May 4). KNIGHTS SECRET 10th (10-1) to Taxibul (7-13) final start, earlier 3l winner (9-1) from Addaana (9-5) at Beverley (8f, £1,017, good to firm, Sep 28, 5 ran). INDIAN SIGN (8-10) 1l winner from Marshal Directory (8-10) at Ayr (6th, £812 soft, Mar 26, 9 ran). WALTER KOHRING (9-0) ¾l 5th of 21 to Mendick Adventure (8-11) at Thirsk (5f, £1,998, firm, May 12).
Selection: ITALIAN SECRET.

● Philippe Paquet, a former French champion jockey, is to leave for Australia today to continue his recovery from a near-fatal accident during training. The 31-year-old Hong-Kong based jockey lay in a coma for sim weeks after his mount, Silver Star, threw him and kicked his in the head during a morning training gallop in February.

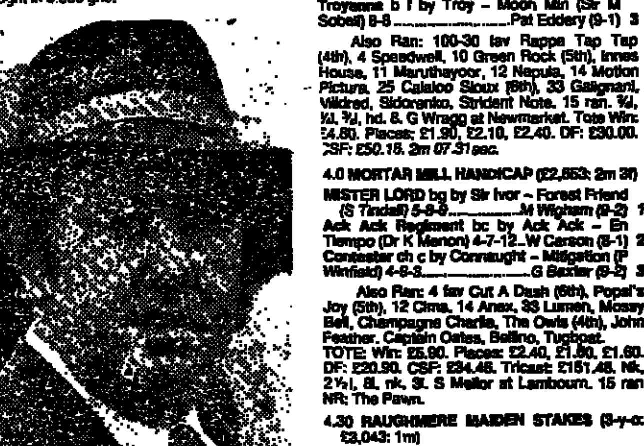
● John O'Neill edged nearer the 100 winner mark for the season – he now needs just two more – when Ragabury beat Aqua Verde by threequarters of a length in the Gillie Brothers Bookmakers Novices Hurdle at Ayr yesterday.

● History will be made at Sandown on Tuesday when the first ever pattern race will be run at an evening meeting. The Group 3 Henry II Stakes, a £25,000 added two mile event, is the intended target for Carlingford Castle, whose trainer, Henry Cecil, won the race in 1982 with Ardross.

Goodwood results

Going: Rnd Cse: GOOD TO FIRM: Str Cse: GOOD

2.0 BENGES SELLING STAKES (2-y-o: £010255 5f)
MISS GLITTERS gr f by Shikari – Immaculata (Mrs R Lewis) 8-8 R Wernham (11-1) 1
Samantha Fox b c by Sallust – Mwanza (Roldvale Ltd) 8-11 ....W Carson (9-4) 2
Linaria br f by Junius – Reperata (E Arnold) 8-8 ....R Hills (20-1) 3
Also Ran: 11-10 fav John Fresh (5th), 8 Steel Cavalier (4th), 14 Bootle Jack (6th), Marching Dancer, 20 Louise Bishop. NR: Can U Afford It. 8 ran. ¾l, 4l, 3l, 1 ½l. R Hannon at Marlborough. TOTE: Win: £12.60. Places: £2.40, £1.30, £6.90. DF: £25.50. CSF: £35.84. 1m 01.74sec. Bought in 5,800 gns.



Mick Ryan: saddled 8-1 winner, Canif

2.30 DAILY MIRROR APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP HANDICAP (Round 5: 3-y-o: £2,691: 6f)
CANIF gr g by Santamer – Couteau (Mrs W Sole) 9-6 ....M Fozzard (8-1) 1
Hatching b c by Thatch – Bantam (Mrs C Dickson) 8-3 ....D Price (11-2 jt-fav) 2
Ron Riot ro g by Runnymede – Pasia Princess (A Lansley) 8-4 ....G Dickie (8-1) 3
Also Ran: 11-2 jt-fav Pendona, Ballyfummun (6th), 13-2 Amigo Loco, 12 Elame Ann, Lotus Princess (4th), 14 Easy Jeans (5th), 16 Another Deb, 20 Burgundy Star. 11 ran. 1 ½l, 1l, 3l, nk, 2l. M Ryan at Newmarket. TOTE: Win: £9.00. Places: £2.80, £2.30, £2.60. DF: £15.60 CSF: £46.15. TRICAST: £329.29. 1m 13.65sec.

3.0 RIPOLIN PAINTS MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (3-y-o: £3,453: 7f)
KINGSFOLD SWIFT br f by Swing Easy – Bella Lisa (G Nye) 8-11 ....B Rouse (20-1) 1
Royal Yacht b f by Riverman – Regal Style (W Gredley) 8-11 ....L Piggott (14-1) 2
Sweep On br f by Sharpen Up – Regal Lady (L Holliday) 8-11 ....J Matthias (8-1) 3
Also Ran: 6 jt-fav Confetti Copse (4th), Flaming Peace, 7 Switsand (5th), 9 Lucky Engagement, 12 Sea Miracle, Snatch Back, Southern Dynasty, 14 Peacehaven (6th), 16 Marami, 20 Formido, Glint Of Silver, Golden October, 25 Athenian Primrose, Bloomsday, Midasn, Serenata, Swift Tempo. 20 ran. sh, hd, 1l, hd, hd, 1½l. C Benstead at Epsom. Tote Win: £20.60. Places: £4.00, £3.10, £2.80. DF: £5.40. (first or second with any other). CSF: £265.31. 1 min. 30.18 sec.

3.30 LUPE STAKES (3-y-o: fillies: £8,558: 1m2f)
MISS BEAULIEU b f by Northfields – Miss Monaco (J Pearce) 8-8 ....L Piggott (4-1) 1
Celtic Assembly b f by Secretariat – Welsh Gardens (Sheikh Mohammed) 8-3 ....B Rouse (12-1) 2
Troyanna b f by Troy – Moon Min (Sir M Sobell) 8-8 ....Pat Eddery (9-1) 3
Also Ran: 100-30 fav Rappa Tap Tap (4th), 4 Speedwell, 10 Green Rock (5th), Innes House, 11 Maruthayoor, 12 Nepula, 14 Motion Picture, 25 Calaloo Sioux (6th), 33 Galignani, Wildred, Sidorenko, Strident Note. 15 ran. ¾l, ½l, ¾l, hd, 8. G Wragg at Newmarket. Tote Win: £4.80. Places: £2.00, £2.10, £2.40. DF: £30.00. CSF: £50.18. 2m 07.31sec.

4.0 MORTAR MILL HANDICAP (£2,853: 2m 3f)
MISTER LORD bg by Sir Ivor – Forest Friend (S Tindall) 5-8-9 ....M Wigham (9-2) 1
Ack Ack Regiment bc by Ack Ack – En Tiempo (Dr K Menon) 4-7-12 ....W Carson (8-1) 2
Contester ch c by Connaught – Mitigation (P Winfield) 4-8-8 ....G Baxter (9-2) 3
Also Ran: 4 fav Cut A Dash (6th), Popsi's Joy (5th), 12 Cima, 14 Anex, 33 Lumen, Mossy Bell, Champagne Charlie, The Owls (4th), John Feather, Captain Oates, Bellino, Tugboat. TOTE: Win: £5.90. Places: £2.40, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £20.90. CSF: £34.48. Tricast: £151.48. Nk, 2½l, 8l, nk, 3l. S Mellor at Lambourn. 15 ran NR: The Pawn.

4.30 RAUGHMERE MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £3,043: 1m)
TORWAR bc by L'Enjoleur – Mumkin (V Zucco) 9-0 ....D McHargue (8-1) 1
Royal Recourse bc by Valid Appeal – Lady Micheal (R Galpin) 9-0 ....T Ives (20-1) 2
Maysara bc by My Guest – Bentinck Hotel (Yazid and Ahmed Ltd) 9-0 ....L Piggott (8-5 fav) 3
Also Ran: 5 Basie, 9 Adam's Peak, 14 Smoke Creek, 20 Feydan (5th), Lyphanese (4th), 25 Opening Bars, 33 Black Spout, Mr Godfrey, Sharp and Ready, The Mooche (6th), Tremblant, Tristram, 50 Barbican Aire, Coopers King, Farhood, Fordanas, North Star Sam, Eldi, Monarto, Quietfoot, Treberth. TOTE: Win: £19.40. Places: £1.60, £5.00, £2.00. DF: £779.40. CSF: £150.94. 1min 40.43sec. 2l, ¾l, 1½l, 2½l, 1½l. L Cumani at Newmarket. 24 ran.
TOTE DOUBLE: £364.80. TREBLE: £438.90. JACKPOT: Not won. SINGLE WINNER BONUS: Not won. PLACEPOT: £795.70.

Perth results

Going: Firm.
2.15 (2m hdle) 1, Grid D Dutton, (8-1); 2, Baby (2-5 fav); 3, Beau Blondet (8-1). 10l, ½l. 4 ran. C Alexander. Tote: £3.40 DF: £3.20. CSF: £12.07.
2.45 (2m4f hdle) 1, Ragabury (J O'Neill, 4-5 fav); 2, Aqua Verde (2-1); 3, Beau Lyon (15-1). ¾l, 8l. 5 ran. NR: Air Space, King Ketchup. R Fisher. Tote: £2.10; £1.60, £3.60. DF: £1.10. CSF: £2.41. Objection by the second to winner overruled.
3.15 (2m4f chase) 1, Farmer Delaney (C Grant, 4-5 fav); 2, Ronan-Paul (5-2); 3, Hazy Glen (11-4). 1l, nk. 4 ran. NR: Only Money. Denys Smith. Tote: £2.70. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.20.
3.45 (2m hdle) 1, Rumasa (M Barnes, 10-1); 2, Mr Marshall (16-1); 3, Primrose Wood (4-7 fav). 6l, 2½l. 5 ran. NR: Fiaray Sark, Another Joyful. T Barnes. Tote: £11.50, £3.70, £2.30. DF: £40.20. CSF: £86.93.
4.15 (3m chase) 1, Le Bouef (C Grant 4-11 fav); 2, Gold Camp (9-1); 3, Northern Man (11-4). 8l, dist. 3 ran. NR: Indian Maize. Tote: £1.40. DF: £2.30. CSF: £3.23.
4.45 (3m hdle) 1, Good To See You (Mr M Meagher 5-2); 2, Silebemore (11-10 fav); 3, Maracas Bay (7-1). 4l, 8l. 7 ran. R Fisher. Tote: £5.40; £1.90, £2.00. DF: £2.00. CSF: £5.42. Placepot not won.

Carson's ban

Willie Carson, the champion jockey, was suspended for two days by the Italian stewards at San Siro, Milan, last Sunday, for failing to partner one of his booked rides, Realma Lady. The ban means that on Tuesday and Wednesday next week, Carson can only ride for his employer, Dick Hern. This unusual condition arises because our own Jockey Club have extended the suspension imposed by the Italian authorities to cover this country.

Course specialists

AYR
JOCKEYS: J Bleasdale, 22 wins from 158 rides, 13.9%; E Hyde, 32 from 243, 9.8%.
TRAINERS: J Hindley, 26 from 81, 32.1%; C Thornton, 25 from 152, 16.4%; J Berry, 9 from 109, 8.3%.

HAYDOCK
JOCKEYS: W Carson, 27 from 101, 26.7%; P Eddery, 8 from 30, 26.7%.
TRAINERS: G Hunter, 11 from 52, 21.2%; P Cole, 11 from 56, 20.0%; R Houghton, 13 from 67, 19.4%.

PONTEFRACT
JOCKEYS: W Swinburn, 11 from 43, 25.6%; P Cook, 12 from 50, 24.0%;
TRAINERS: H Cecil, 7 from 19, 36.8%; B Hobbs, 9 from 29, 31.0%;

AYR

GOING: good to firm
Draw: 7f, over low numbers best.

6.45 ARRAN STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £868: 5f) (9 runners)
1 210 MY ANNIVESARY (D) R J Williams 9-4 ....E Hide 3
2 40 BEG-TO-DIFFER W H Williams 8-8 ....L Charnock 2
4 3 CLOTILDA P Calver 8-8 ....M Beecroft 8
5 0220 DENEUVE J S Wilson 8-8 ....M L Thomas 7
8 PAPPLEWICK LADY J Berry 8-8 ....K Darley 5
9 0 REESETTE J Wilson 8-8 ....J Bleasdale 4
10 SHIRLY ANN N Tinkler 8-8 ....P Robinson 1
11 SUNWOOD W Elsdy 8-8 ....G Sexton 6
13 3 SWEET SALORA E Weymes 8-8 ....K Hodgson
1983: Oystons Propwealdy 8- K Darley (2-1 fav) J Berry 8 ran.
11-10 My Anniversary, 9-4 Clotilda, 11-2 Papplewick Lady, 10 Deneuve, 12 Sweet Salora, Sunwood, 16 others.

Ayr selections

By Mandarin
6.45 My Anniversary. 7.15 Holt Row. 7.45 Old Hubert. 8.15 Handsome Blaze. 8.45 Top Ranker. 9.15 Trickshot.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
6.45 My Anniversary. 7.45 Old Hubert. 8.45 Top Ranker. 9.15 Temple Bar.

7.15 AYR SPRINT HANDICAP (£2,565: 6f) (7)
5 40-23 HOLT ROW M McCormack 3-9-7 ....P Robinson 5
8 300-3 OYSTONS ESTATES (D) J S Wilson 5-8-12 ....E Turner 7 4
11 0300 CENTRAL CARPETS R Stubbs 5-8-10 ....K Hodgson 3
14 0032 SPOILT FOR CHOICE (CD) D Chapman 6-8-7 ....A Proud 7
15 0031 WELSH NOBLE (CD) A Balding 6-8-5 (4 ex) ....N Carlisle 5
16 04-01 PRIONSAA (CD) W H Williams 6-7-12 (4 ex) 1
17 8000 RUSSIAN WINTER (B) (C) A W Jones 9-7-10 ....M Fozzard 7 2
1983: In Rhythm 6-8-0 K Williams (7-2) P Makin 7 ran.
2 Holt Row, 11-4 Welsh Noble, 4 Spoilt For Choice, 6 Oystons Estates, 8 Prionsaa, 14 others.

FORM: HOLT ROW (8-13) 4½l 3rd to Deputy Head (9-4) at Newbury (6f, £4,246, good, May 19, 18 ran). OYSTON ESTATES (9-4) 3rd, ¾l behind SPOILT FOR CHOICE (9-2) at Hamilton (6f, £1,912, good to soft, Apr 1, 10 ran). CENTRAL CARPETS (9-2) 3¾l 5th to PRIONSAA (7-7) at Hamilton (6f, £1,379, firm, May 11, 10 ran). SPOILT FOR CHOICE (9-2) had RUSSIAN WINTER (8-9) 2l back in 6th when 2nd to Tradesman (7-11) at Hamilton (5f, £1,291, firm, May 14, 10 ran). WELSH NOBLE (7-8) beat Valley Mills (8-5) by a head at pontefraect (6f, £2,895, firm, May 14, 13 ran).
Selection: PRISONAA.

7.45 CHEVALIER MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £1,514: 1m 3f) (8)
3 0- COOL JAMIE J Wilson 9-0 ....K Darley 6
6 003-0 HAYASHI C Booth 9-0 ....G Oldroyd 5
9 8-022 OLD HUBERT (BF) A Bailey 9-0 ....P Bloomfield 5 4
11 000-4 TOCKALA E Weymes 9-0 ....– 8
14 0220-4 INNOCENT MAID P Rohan 8-11 ....R Fahey 7 7
15 002-0 LADY SEVILLE Denys Smith 8-11 ....M Fry 1
16 040-6 LILY OF LAGUNA C Thornton 8-11 ....J Bleasdale 2
17 0 OVER YOUR SHOULDER J Hindley 8-11 ....B Thomson 3
1983: Promindante 9-0 M Wigham (13-2) S Mellor 7 ran.
5-4 Over Your Shoulder, 7-2 Old Hubert, 5 Tockala, 13-2 Lady Seville, 10 Innocent Maid, 14 Hayashi, 20 Lily Of Laguna, 50 Cool Jamie.

8.15 MILLBRAE HANDICAP (£2,022: 1m) (8)
1 314-8 WARPLANE C Thornton 5-9-10 ....J Bleasdale 5
4 0-000 AFRICAN PEARL J S Wilson 5-9-8 ....B Wardrope 7
5 0200 CARRIAGE WAY (D) R Stubbs 10-9-5 ....S Bridle 7 1
6 0-024 FOOLISH WAYS A Balding 5-9-3 ....J Balding 4
7 440-2 HANDSOME BLAZE (CD) C Booth 9-8-13 ....M Hindley 7 7
8 0-103 TRAA-DY-LIOOAR (CD) W H Williams 4-8-7 ....Dwyer 3
9 000-0 CAMERONIAN LAD J S Wilson 5-8-2 ....M L Thomas 2
11 00-00 HIGH PORT (D) A W Jones 5-8-1 ....L Charnock 8
1983: Handsome Blaze 5-7-8 M Fry (4-1 fav) C Booth 11 ran.
5-2 Warplane, 100-30 Carriage Way, 9-2 Handsome Blaze, 8 Traa-Dy-Liooar, 13-2 Foolish Ways, 10 African Pearl, 14 others.

8.45 PRESTWICK SELLING STAKES (£914: 1m) (9)
1 300-8 RUSTIC TRACK (D) E Carr 4-9-8 ....E Ide 5
2 00-48 SINGLE HAND D Chapman 4-9-8 ....A roud 9
5 0-100 JOLIE COURTISANE (C) J S Wilson 4-9-5 ....D Leadbitter 7 4
6 0-104 LADY DONOARO (D) J Berry 4-9-5 ....K Darley 7
8 442-0 DAME PEGGY J Old 4-9-0 ....NON-RUNNER 3
9 001-4 TOP RANKER J Hindley 3-8-7 ....B Thompson 8
11 0000 DANCING ORANGE A Balding 3-8-4 ....A Weiss 5
13 0030- TROPICAL STORM (D) A Bailey 3-8-4 ....P Bloomfield 5 1
18 0- RECEPTIVE W H Williams 3-7-13 ....O Gray 2
1983: Boy Sandford 4-9-5 Paul Eddery (8-1) C Bell 9 ran.
15-8 Top Ranker, 11-4 Lady Donaro, 4 Dame Peggy, 13-2 Jolie Courtisane, 10 Single Hand, 16 others.

9.15 AUCHINCRUIVE HANDICAP (£2,211: 1m 7f) (8)
3 0190 TEMPLE BAR C Brittain 4-8-7 ....G Sexton 7
5 322-1 BEAN BOY (D) Denys Smith 8-9-3 ....D Leadbitter 7
7 40-12 TRICKSHOT (B) C Thornton 5-8-10 ....L Charnock 8
10 10-00 AULD LANG SYNE (B) Mrs M Nesbitt 5-8-6 ....A Crook 3
11 113-4 LUXURY E Carr 5-8-6 ....N Carlisle 4
16 000-0 SOME SPARE R Smyly 5-7-10 ....M L Thomas 2
17 0-043 HYDRANGEA D Chapman 5-7-9 ....A Proud 2
19 0000 JOY OF MUSIC P Rohan 4-7-7 ....J Quinn 7 5
1983: Tentwort 8-7-12 M Fry (7-2) W Elsey 9 ran.
2 Bean Boy, 1-4 Trickshot, 7-2 Luxury, 11-2 Temple Bar, 12 Auld Lang Syne, 14 others.

FORM: TEMPLE BAR (8-8) 7l 5th of 8 to Potin Boy (7-13) at Ascot (1m 4f, £2,494, firm, May 2). BEAN BOY (8-4) beat Hold Tight (9-7) 4l at Redcar (1m 4f, £1,844, firm, May 8, 10 ran) with JOY OF MUSIC (7-7) 16l away 5th. TRICKSHOT (8-0) a neck 2nd of 16 to Hazel Bush (8-5) at Newcastle (1m 4f, £2,355, good, Apr 28). AULD LANG SYNE (7-11) over 8l 6th of 8 to Tree Mallow (8-0) at Ripon (2m, £3,941, firm, Apr 28). LUXURY (8-3) just over 8l 4th of 10 to Afzal (9-5) at Thirsk (1m 4f, £2,380, firm, Apr 27). HYDRANGEA (7-10) just over 20l 3rd of 9 to Dark Proposal (9-7) at Beverley (2m, £1,467, firm, May 18).
Selection: BEAN BOY.

PONTEFRACT

GOING: good to firm
Draw: Low numbers best

6.45 POPLAR HANDICAP (£1,864: 1m 4f) (8 runners)
3 000-1 PONTIN BOY (D) Thomson Jones 6-9-7 ....A Murray 2
7 0-001 HIGHAM GREY (CD) D Chapman 8-8-13 (8 ex) ....D Nicholls 3
8 120-3 PURNS MILL A Stewart 4-8-12 ....W R Swinburn 4
9 40-01 TIMSAH (CD) J Ciechanowski 4-8-11 ....NON-RUNNER
13 3000/ PRICE OF PEACE (B) J C M Doyle 6-8-4 ....G Duffield 8
16 0-002 KITTY COME HOME D Dale 4-8-1 ....– 6
19 302-3 ALFIE DICKINS (D) R Hollinshead 6-7-10 ....W Ryan 5 1
22 00-00 BELLE VUE R Hollinshead 11-7-7 ....C Ashby 7 5
1983: Secret Pursuit 4-9-0 K Hodgson (2-1 fav) M H Easterby 16 ran.
15-8 Pontin Boy, 5-2 Purns Mill, 7-2 Higham Grey, 6 Alfie Dickins, 8 Kitty Come Home, 14 others.

Pontefract selections

By Mandarin
6.45 Pontin Boy. 7.10 Freedom Glory. 7.35 Rabirius. 8.5 Adelphai. 8.35 Alawir. 9.5 OAKWOOD PARK (nap).

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
6.45 Paras Mill. 7.10 Kyroota. 7.35 Shuteye. 8.5 Mrs Danvers. 8.35 Alawir. 9.5 Oakwood Park.

7.10 BEECH SELLING HANDICAP (£731: 1m) (9)
1 0p-00 KYROOTA (D) (B) M Tompkins 4-9-10 ....R Curant 1
8 1000 KELLY BAY S Norton 3-8-12 ....C Oliver 5 4
8 0000- MIDWEEK SPECIAL (B) T Kersey 4-8-7 ....– 3
10 0003 FREEDOM GLORY T Fairhurst 4-8-7 ....R P Elliott 5
11 08-00 HAGEN'S BARGAIN F Yardley 4-8-7 ....S Keightley 6
13 0-000 LINANHOT (B) J Parkes 4-8-6 ....S Webster 9
17 00-00 GET WISE K Stone 3-7-13 ....J Lowe 8
18 0000- SHINY BARN G Blum 3-7-12 ....G Duffield 7
19 00-00 SAFFRON LADY (B) D Ringer 3-7-7 ....A Mackay 2
1983: Chestnut Pale 4-9-0 W Carson (4-1) Hbt Jones 12 ran.
15-8 Kelly Bay, 11-4 Kyroota, 7-2 Freedom Glory, 6 Get Wise.

7.35 G A FARNDON RACING LTD HANDICAP (3-y-o: £2,876: 1m)
2 010- SHUTEYE (D) W H-Bass 9-7 ....T Ives 4
3 0400 ALL FAIR R Whitaker 9-6 ....S Perks 7
5 0-040 SAMS WOOD T Fairhurst 9-5 ....R P Elliott 3
10 034-0 BLACKESWARE GIFT M Tompkins 8-11 ....R Curant 2
11 0314 RABIRIUS (BF) W Bentley 8-11 ....M Wood 5
12 0003- FEI LOONG E Eldin 8-11 ....A Mackay 6
13 030-6 NORTON PRINCESS M H Easterby 8-11 ....S Dondin 7 1
18 0010 CAMDEN LAD R Hollinshead 8-5 (6 ex) ....W Ryan 5 8
19 2-000 HELLCATMUDWRESTLER N Callaghan 8-3 ....– 9
1983: Rangefinder 8-7 S Cauthen (13-8 fav) B Hills 10 ran.
3 Shuteye, 4 Rabirius, 9-2 Camden Lad, 6 Hellcatmudwrestler, 7 All Fair, 9 Fei Loong, 10 Blackeswere Gift, 14 others.

8.5 YORKSHIRE RACING CLUB STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £2,201: 5f) (10)
1 1 STUBBLE (D) R Boss 9-0 ....J Johnson 1
2 14 DOPPIO (D) G Blum 8-8 ....G Duffield 7
3 201 ADELPHAI (D) (B) W O'Gorman 8-8 ....T Ives 4
4 BUNGEBELLE P Felgate 8-4 ....M Miller 4
5 4 DRAGAPUSS W Haigh 8-4 ....S Webster 2
6 ITS MY TURN R Hollinshead 8-4 ....W Ryan 5 8
7 MRS DANVERS J Winter 8-4 ....P Hamblett 9
8 SAFFRON SCANDAL J Berry 8-4 ....A Geran 7 3
10 40 SISTER RACINE T Fairhurst 8-4 ....R P Elliott 5
12 00 TAYLORS RENOVATION D Leslie 8-4 ....M Rimmer 10
1983: Red Lory 8-4 N Day (100-30) R Sheather 12 ran.
5-4 Adelphai, 11-4 Stubble, 4 Doppio, 8 Mrs Danvers, 9 Saffron Scandal, 12 others.

8.35 WALNUT STAKES (£1,853: 1m 2f) (7)
1 0-004 ALAWIR Thomson Jones 4-9-6 ....A Murray 7
6 10-00 WATER GIRL O Douleb 4-8-13 ....R Machado 5 2
8 03-00 GARDEN ROUTE F Durr 4-8-11 ....G Duffield 4
12 0/0-3 THE SUN GOD J Ciechanowski 5-8-11 ....J McClean 7 6
16 0 BEAUTIFUL SUN E Eldin 4-8-3 ....A Mackay 5
20 0/0 MICHAEL'S REVENGE D Thom 5-8-3 ....M Birch 1
21 00/0 PETE THE MEAT P Felgate 4-8-3 ....M Miller 3
1983: Winart 5-9-3 G Duffield (11-2) G P-Gordon 18 ran.
6-4 Alawir, 5-2 Water Girl, 9-2 The Sun God, 6 Garden Route, 10 Michael's Revenge, 14 others.

9.5 CEDAR MAIDEN STAKES (3-y-o: £478: 6f) (11)
2 0-20 BOB-DOUBLE R Whitaker 9-0 ....S Perks 2
6 3000- MONINSKY N Bycroft 9-0 ....P Cook 7
7 30- MR SHOON J Etherington 9-0 ....M Wood 6
8 0303- OAKWOOD PARK B Hobbs 9-0 ....G Baxter 9
9 2- TANFEN M H Easterby 9-0 ....S Dondin 7 7
10 30-3 AL BAYAN Thomson Jones 8-11 ....A Murray 5
11 000-0 C-B M GIRL K Stone 8-11 ....D Nicholls 3
12 04-8 CLUNK CLICK J Hindley 8-11 ....M Hills 11
13 24-23 CONRARA M H Easterby 8-11 ....M Birch 1
15 02- LADY TIPPINS H Cecil 8-11 ....Paul Eddery 10
20 4900-3 NEVER TURN BACK C Tinkler 8-11 ....J Lowe 8
1983: Vatican Way 8-11 W R Swinburn (100-30) M Stoute 12 ran.
11-8 Lady Tippins, 7-2 Al Bayan, 7-2 Oakwood Park, 5 Conrara, 6 Clunk Click, 9 Never Turn Back, 10 Tanfen, 14 others.

Towcester programme

GOING: firm

6.15 BLISWORTH SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£538: 2m) (15 runners)
2 /8p- Dakes Lad 8-11-10 ....Mr A Fowler
3 880 Oul Monsieur 10-11-7 ....Mr M Bosley 7
4 400 Blue Patrol (B) 6-11-6 ....A Webb
5 pp3 Witton Beacon 8-11-4 ....J A Harris
6 220 Essam (B) 6-11-0 ....Steve Knight
8 038 Hostiass 9-10-11 ....M Kinane
9 808 Hang Loose Cassie 7-10-9 ....M Furlong
10 010 Florence 8-10-9 ....Mr L Lay 7
12 0-0b Hypnotherapist 7-10-6 ....Mr R Dunwoody 4
15 080 Tarmac Back 7-10-4 ....R Atkins
16 083 Call Up 4-10-3 ....A Carroll
17 pop Celtic March (B) 4-10-2 ....A Webber
18 pp8 Singing Fool 8-10-2 ....C Brown
20 0p-2 Tempole 9-10-0 ....K Townsend 7
21 000/ Musical Of Palms 9-10-0 ....G Newman
3 Tempole, 7-2 Call Up, 4 Blue Patrol, 6 Florence.

6.45 RUFFORD HANDICAP CHASE (£970: 2m 50yd) (6)
2 021 The Guinea Man 7-11-10 (7 ex) ....A Webb
4 044 Another Nifty 10-11-8 ....R Mann
5 301 Carbury's Kit 9-11-6 ....Mr C Willett
7 013 Morocco Sound 5-11-0 ....Mr R Dunwoody 4
9 42p Old Castle Line 8-10-8 ....V McKevitt
10 033 Hanover Prince 9-10-4 ....M Hammond 4
7-4 The Guinea Man, 100-30 Morocco Sound, 4 Hanover Prince, 6 Another Nifty.

7.15 SHOLEBROOK HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,007: 3m 96yd) (11)
4 s00 Nepcote (5) 6-11-7 ....C Brown
6 112 Its-A-Twist 5-10-12 ....S J O'Neill
7 411 Mister Pitt 5-10-12 ....C McCourt
9 241 Sweet Solicitor (B) 5-10-9 (7 ex) ....Steve Knight
12 218 Marlisen (B) 5-10-0 ....P Double
13 3p3 Dropshot (B) 9-10-0 ....R Chapman
14 100 Royal Reassal 11-10-0 ....Mrs J Owen
15 00-6 Tallmax 6-10-0 ....–
16 048 Alongrove Sound 6-10-0 ....Mr N Brookes
17 002 Grey Visca 6-10-0 ....Mr A Sharpe
18 030 Otterden 10-10-0 ....M Rowley 7
4 Mister Pitt, 5 Sweet Solicitor, 6 It's A Twist, Nepcote.

7.45 FERMOOR HANDICAP CHASE (£1,249: 3m 190yd) (8)
4 0f2 Paddy's Peril 8-11-7 ....P Barton
5 r2p Ambremont 11-11-0 ....A Carroll
6 213 Leading Artist 9-10-12 ....V McKevitt
8 012 Mr Oryx 11-10-2 ....C Smith
9 031 No Retreat 12-10-2 ....A Webber
10 303 Kemps Flight 10-10-0 ....A Webb
15 0-38 King Ross 15-10-0 ....Mr B Adams 7
16 224 Just A Ghost 6-10-0 ....Miss S French
7-2 Paddy's Peril, 4 Mr Oryx, 9-2 Leading Artist, 6 No Retreat.

8.15 BRACKLEY HATCH HUNTERS' CHASE (amateurs: £520: 2m 5f 110yd) (7)
1 10-p Ballyard Slipper 9-12-2 ....Miss S Andrews 7
3 2/12 Egbert 8-12-2 ....C Gee 7
7 p-03 Reliable Robert (B) 10-11-12 ....S Sherwood
8 8 Coolclift Cross 13-11-7 ....R Banks 7
9 00-f Freddy Spiller (B) 9-11-7 ....A Tutton 7
10 fuu Jack Of All Trades 8-11-7 ....C King 7
12 0-f0 Great Boss 11-11-2 ....Dr C Studd
11-10 Reliable Robert, 7-2 Egbert, 5 Jack Of All Trades, 6 Ballyard Slipper.

8.45 PATTISHALL NOVICES' HURDLE (£548: 2m) (5)
5 120 Picotee 6-11-0 ....Mr M Bosley 7
7 213 Star Whistler 7-11-0 ....G Newman
11 443 Light Sentence 6-10-12 ....A Webber
12 8p3 Mandy's Seal 6-10-12 ....J A Harris
17 6 Piglet 5-10-7 ....R Chapman 4
6-4 Star Whistler, 2 Picotee, 5 Piglet, 7 Light Sentence.

TOWCESTER SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 6.15 Blue Patrol. 6.45 The Guinea Man. 7.15 Sweet Solicitor. 7.45 Paddy's Peril. 8.15 Egbert. 8.45 Piglet.

Blinkered first time

PONTEFRACT: 7.10 Kyroota, Midweek Special, Saffron Lady.
HAYDOCK: 4.30 My Son My Son.

OFICIAL SCRATHINGS: Lak Lustre, Queen Anne Stakes Ascot; Lak Lustre, St James Palace Stakes Ascot; Lak Lustre, Coventry Stakes Royal Ascot; Expecting To Fly. All Eng's (dead): Etoy, Folded Councillor, Lucky Find, Runaway Girl, Focus Point, Red Gallo, Revelling, Misto, Run Over, Night Spirit, Deep Ice, Quickthorn, Royal Sunset, Apexy Apexy, Emma Bank, Last Chance, Roadway, Street Secret, Proven Spirit, Rushowen, Little Ben, Eve's Folly.

Sedgefield

GOING: firm

2.15 PETERLEE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£415: 2m) (7 runners)
1 6 Orchard Knight 9-12-3 ....–
2 p-p8 Kindred 8-11-10 ....Jayne Thompson 7
3 074 Vilnga 5-11-10 (5 ex) ....C Hawkins
4 0f7 Pericula Ludus 8-11-4 ....Vicki Harris 7
6 434 Shugbie 9-10-12 ....–
11 0u5 Midnight Mary 8-10-0 ....Mr J Carden
12 080 Call-Me-Marlais 11-10-0 ....Mr P Avery
6-4 Pericula Ludus, 2 Vilnga, 11-4 Shugbie, 8 Kindred.

2.45 BUTTERWICK HANDICAP CHASE (£1,009: 2m 4f) (3)
2 400 Swift River 7-11-7 ....Mr D Pitcher
3 u43 Tiverness 8-11-3 ....Mr P J Dun 7
6 220 Greenhill Hall 8-10-10 ....C Hawkins
5-4 Greenhill Hall, 6-4 Tiverness, 11-4 Swift River.

3.15 THORN HEATING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,328: 2m 4f) (6)
1 111 Master Blaster 8-12-3 (7 ex) ....D Dutton
5 p00 Sandi 7-11-5 ....–
6 21-2 Bold Raider (B) 6-11-4 ....M Pepper 4
7 033 Glen Willy 6-11-0 ....–
8 182 Optimum (B) 6-10-10 ....J J O'Neill
10 094 Jaghesh 12-10-6 ....–
9-4 Bold Raider, 11-4 Optimum, 4 Master Blaster, 7 Glen Willy.

3.45 VAUX BREWERIES HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £1,149: 3m 600yd) (14)
1 Flying Express 7-12-7 ....Miss D Calder 7
2 Fourth Mark (B) 11-12-7 ....B Morley 7
3 000- Gilcks Hill 7-12-7 ....J M Dun 7
5 Mangatia 8-12-7 ....M Haigh 7
6 2041 Pinehagmond 8-12-7 ....T D Smith
7 4/44 Rabinski 9-12-7 ....C Sample 4
8 p/0- Rising Blue 9-12-7 ....A Walmsley 7
9 Saucy Knight 7-12-7 ....C Cundall
11 000/ Flamin Palmer 9-12-2 ....Miss T Gray 7
12 Kirkless Lilly 10-12-2 ....A Patnock 7
13 000- Liberty Bodies 9-12-2 ....N Tutty 7
14 0-48 Loch Brandy 7-12-2 ....P Niven 7
15 Sugar Sands 8-12-2 ....R Tate 7
16 Trigemma 9-12-2 ....R Rate 7
2 Flying Express, 100-30 Saucy Knight, 4 Rabinski, 5 Loch Brandy.

4.15 LATE COMERS NOVICES' CHASE (£644: 3m 600yd) (2)
1 121 Bobby Brown 7-11-12 ....C Grant
7 008 Trahgual 6-11-7 ....J J O'Neill
-1-6 Bobby Brown, 6 Trahgual.

4.45 ELWICK NOVICES' HURDLE (£479: 2m) (6)
2 013 Marsh Track 4-11-10 ....P A Charlton
4 400 Summerland 4-11-10 ....Jayne Thompson 7
6 00-2 Kingfisher Wonder 5-11-5 ....Mr N Jones 7
8 000 Song Minstrel 6-11-5 ....D Dutton
10 000 Tasted 5-11-5 ....S Kettlewell 4
13 000 Indian Call (B) 5-11-0 ....J J O'Neill
4-6 Marsh Track, 5 Summerland, 6 Indian Call, 7 Kingfisher Wonder.

SEDGEFIELD SELECTIONS (By Mandarin): 2.15 Vilnga. 2.45 Greenhill Hall. 3.15 Optimum. 3.45 Flying Express. 4.15 Bobby Brown. 4.45 Marsh Track.

Anglers may cast beyond centre of Scottish rivers

Fothringham v Kerr or Passmore and Another

Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman

[Speeches delivered May 24]

Where the opposite banks of a Scottish river were in different ownerships, each proprietor was entitled to stand on his own bank, or to wade out to the limit of his property in the bed of the river (the *medium filum*), and to fish as far across the river as he could reach by normal casting or spinning. He was not restricted to casting or spinning only up to the *medium filum*.

The House of Lords allowed consolidated appeals by Mr Robert Steuart Fothringham, proprietor of the estate of Murthly on the south bank of the Tay, from the decision of the First Division of the Court of Session (Lord Emslie, Lord President, Lord Cameron and Lord Stott) (1983 SLT 444) allowing a reclaiming motion for the respondents, Mrs Ellen Smith Kerr or Passmore and Major Charles Sylvester Passmore, proprietors of the estate of Stenton on the north bank of the Tay, recalling interlocutors granted by the Lord Ordinary (Lord Cowie) and granting interdict against the appellant from fishing *ex adverso* the bank of Stenton to the north of the *medium filum* of the river.

Mr John Murray, QC, Mr Kenneth Osborne, QC and Mr Nigel Morrison (all of the Scottish Bar) for the appellant; Mr M. S. R. Bruce, QC, and Mr P. H. Brodie (both of the Scottish Bar) for the respondents.

LORD FRASER said that authority was surprisingly meagre on the question whether, as a general rule, each proprietor of estates on opposite banks of a river had the right to fish for salmon by rod and line from his own bank only as far as the *medium filum* of the river or was entitled to fish beyond the *medium filum*.

The Lord Ordinary had found that at since at least 1910, and probably since 1870, until the emergence of the present dispute, the right of salmon fishing of each estate had been exercised in accordance with an arrangement or custom whereby each proprietor fished the whole breadth of the river *ex adverso* of his estate by rod and line on alternate lawful fishing days. One year, one proprietor had Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of each week; the next year, that proprietor had Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. An arrangement of that sort was very common on the Tay; it was also found on other rivers.

The Lord Ordinary had found that there was no evidence of a formal agreement between the parties or their predecessors in title relating to that arrangement. The probabilities were that it had been one simply for mutual convenience of the respective proprietors, and if that was its basis, it could not establish any legal right.

The right of salmon fishing on the mainland of Scotland was a heritable right originally vested in the Crown as part of the *regalia minora* and could only be vested in a subject by virtue of a grant from the Crown. Each party in the present case had a title derived from the Crown, with an express grant of salmon fishings, but his Lordship agreed with the Lord Ordinary and the First Division that the nature and extent of the parties' possession had not been shown to be ascribable to their title.

In the circumstances, the extent of the parties' rights, and particularly the question whether they extended beyond the *medium filum*, must be decided on general principles.

All except two of the reported cases to which their Lordships had been referred had been concerned with the rights of salmon fishing by net and coble, no doubt because that had until the middle of the last century been much the most valuable method. The principles applicable to fishing by net and coble had been stated by Lord Cowan in *Earl of Zetland v Tennent's Trustees* ((1873) 11 Macph 469, 473):

"If the stream is broad enough to allow of a clear sweep of the nets, without crossing the *medium filum*, each riparian proprietor must so exercise his right as to keep within the *medium filum* . . . But . . . a different state of matters arises where the stream is not sufficiently broad to admit of this. The court in such cases has found that some arrangement must be made for an alternate sweep of the nets from the different sides. In the cases, however, where immemorial possession has been enjoyed, I cannot think that the ascertainment of the *medium filum* is of any avail in determining such rights of fishing."

His Lordship's conclusion on the cases was that all the judicial utterances had been at one in treating the general rule as being that, if not otherwise explained by prescriptive possession, the right pertaining to riparian lands to fish for salmon by net and coble extended only to the *medium filum*, at least where the opposite banks were owned by different proprietors, subject to the exception for "narrow rivers". That rule had been so universally accepted as to be unchallengeable.

The effect of the cases, including *Campbell v Muir* (1908 SC 387), which had been concerned only with rod fishing, was that there was no authority, certainly none binding on their Lordships, that had decided whether the right to fish in a river by rod and line extended beyond the *medium filum* or not.

His Lordship had at first been much inclined to agree with the method adopted by the sheriff-substitute in *Campbell v Muir* of applying the principles derived from fishing by net and coble to rod fishing, with the result that, as a general rule, each party would be restricted to casting only in his own half of the river. His Lordship had, however, reached the conclusion that the correct application of the principle was different.

One of the features of fishing by net and coble, as normally conducted, was that one end of the net was held by a man standing on the bank, or in a boat only a short distance out. From the stationary man on the bank, the law permitted "a clear sweep of the nets" by another man rowing the coble, even if that involved sweeping beyond the *medium filum*.

The true analogy for rod fishing seemed to be that, provided the rod fisherman remained on his own bank, or at least on his own ground in the bed of the river, he was entitled to cast his fly or lure as far as he could in accordance with ordinary practice. Such casting was equivalent to the clear sweep of the nets by the coble.

If the general rule were to be that a fisherman was limited to casting no further than the *medium filum*, it would have to be subject to the same exception as for net and coble fishing in cases where the river was so narrow that it would not be fished "effectively" or "properly and availably" without casting beyond the *medium filum*, but that exception, at least in its application to rod fishing, would inevitably lead to much uncertainty.

Further, a rule limiting the extent of the right to cast to the *medium filum* would, in practice, be almost impossible to enforce.

His Lordship was, accordingly, of the opinion that the true principle applicable to fishing for salmon by rod and line in rivers, where the opposite banks were in different ownerships, was that each proprietor was entitled to stand on his own bank, or to wade out to the limit of his property in the *alveus* of the river, that is, to the *medium filum*, and to fish as far across the river as he could reach by normal casting or spinning.

Lord Edmund-Davies and Lord Keith delivered opinions concurring in allowing the appeals.

Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman agreed with Lord Fraser and Lord Keith.

Solicitors: Frere Cholmeley for Lindsays, WS, Edinburgh; Martin & Co for Shepherd & Wedderburn, WS, Edinburgh, and J & J Miller, WS, Perth.

Planning consent cannot be abandoned

Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Ltd v Secretary of State for the Environment and Others

Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook

[Speeches delivered May 24]

There was no legal principle that a planning permission for the development of land could be abandoned by the act of a party entitled to its benefit.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by the Peak Park Planning Board in respect of a permission to work minerals at a site in Hartington, Derbyshire, granted in 1950 to the then occupiers who, in 1966, had informed the board of their intention to cease quarrying and which the respondents Pioneer Aggregates (UK) Ltd, the new occupiers, on inquiring of the board whether planning permission to resume quarrying on the site was necessary, were informed had been abandoned.

Pioneer then did some token acts and an enforcement notice was served, which the secretary of state upheld. The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Eveleigh, Lord Justice O'Connor and Sir David Cairns: *The Times* June 15, 1983) upheld Mr Justice Glidewell's order allowing Pioneer's appeal from that decision.

Mr Michael Barnes QC and Mr Harold Singer for the board; Mr David Widdicombe, QC and Mr Charles George for Pioneer.

LORD SCARMAN said that the appellant had relied on *Slough Estates Ltd v Slough Borough Council (No 2)* ([1969] 2 Ch 305) where the occupier had behaved as if a 1945 permission did not exist, sought fresh permission and obtained compensation for loss of development value when it was refused. He had then sought a declaration that the 1945 permission was still in force.

The Court of Appeal ruled that by claiming and obtaining compensation the occupier had elected to abandon his rights under the permission and could not revive it.

Both courts in the present case had refused to accept that the *Slough* decision introduced into the planning law any general rule of abandonment, treating it as a limited exception to what they held was the general rule that a permission could not be extinguished merely by conduct. They went on to find that the facts of the present case did not fall within the *Slough* exception of elecion.

The Court of Appeal in the *Slough* case erred in law in holding that the doctrine of election was to be incorporated into the planning law either as the basis of a general rule of abandonment or as an exception to the general rule that the duration of a valid planning permission was governed by the provisions of the planning legislation.

Planning control was the creature of statute and Parliament had provided a comprehensive code currently to be found in the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, as subsequently amended.

The clear implication of section 33(1) of the Act was that only the statute or the terms of the planning permission itself could stop the permission enuring for the benefit of the land and all persons for the time being interested therein.

Further, the extensive provisions governing the duration, modification and temination of permission in the Act, and a recent amendment not yet in force, the Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Act 1981, strongly reinforced the view of the law relating to planning control being a comprehensive code.

The introduction into the planning law of a doctrine of abandonment by election of the landowner could not be justified. It would lead to uncertainty and confusion in the law, and there was no need for it.

With regard to other decisions apart from *Slough* that might upon first sight and before analysis, seem to suggest that there was room for a principle of abandonment, his Lordship found nothing in any of them to cast doubt on the view of principle to which a study of the legislation had led him.

Lord Fraser, Lord Roskill, Lord Bridge and Lord Brandon agreed.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard & Co; Coward Chance.



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Clifford Webb's motoring article has been held out this week.

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London WC1X 8EZ

or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-837 3311 or 01-837 3333. Funeral Directors' Direct Lines: 01-278 8166 or 01-278 9167.

Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 6.30pm. Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon (837 3333 only). For publication the following day phone by 1.30pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page £5 a line. 01-837 1234 ext 7714

Court and Social Page announcements can not be accepted by telephone.

Most other classified advertisements can be accepted by telephone. The deadline is 5.00pm 2 days prior to publication (i.e. 5.00 pm Monday for Wednesday). Should you wish to send an advertisement in writing please include your daytime 'phone number.

" If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream " - Numbers 12.6

BIRTHS

BARROW. - On May 24, to Helen (née Carter) and Andrew, a son Charles Andrew at University College Hospital, London.

CORBY. On May 17th, 1984, to Lucinda and Mike - a son, a brother for Jonathan.

DALZELL on 19th May in Hong Kong to Sally (nee peters) and Richard a son a brother for Jamie.

DAVIDSON. On 21st May 1984, to Pauline (née Dunning) and Ian at Queen Charlotte's Hospital - a daughter, Anna Isobel a sister for Harry and Max.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

GLENKINGLAS. - A thanksgiving service for the life of Lord Glenkinglas will be held at Holy Trinity, Brompton, SW3, on Tuesday, June 12, at noon.

GORDON - A service in memory of George D Gordon, CBE, DSC, of Colombo, Sri Lanka, & Kilconquhar, Fife, will be held at Kilconquhar Parish Church, Fife, on Thursday, June 7th at 2.30 pm.

LLOYD-THOMAS a memorial service for the late very Reverend John Roland Lloyd-Thomas, former Dean of Monmouth 1962-63, and principal of St David's University College, Lampeter 1953-1975, will be held at St Woolos Cathedral, Newport, Gwent on Thursday 7th June 1984 at 2.30 pm.

MISSEN A service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Donald Frederick Roy MISSEN will be held in the Chapel of Christ's College, Cambridge on Saturday 9 June at 2.30 pm.

IN MEMORIAM (WAR)

HMS COVENTRY 25 May 1982 In memory of nineteen brave men and a gallant ship.

IN MEMORIAM

HARRISON, MARY KENT 1916-1983. All our love Kent and the Family, and Margaret. You will never leave us.

PERRY. Kate Elizabeth on May 25th 1980, loving wife, mother and grand mother always in our thoughts.

TEMPLE FRANCES, widow of Archbishop William Temple (Bishop of Manchester 1921-1929) Commemoration and Thanksgiving at Manchester Cathedral Thursday June the 28th at 6.30.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOVE HOUSE THIS WEDNESDAY. See our property pages on May 30th for details.

SOMERSET IN SUMMERTIME? See our UK holidays columns every Saturday to book your British break.

THE TIMES

THE ADVERTISEMENT DEPARTMENT WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY 28th MAY

The Bank Holiday deadlines are as follows:

MONDAY	28th MAY	TODAY AT 5.00pm.
TUESDAY	29th MAY	
WEDNESDAY	30th MAY	

PERSONAL COLUMNS

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SEATFINDERS Any event, incl. Cats, Cov. Garden, cricket, Sinatra, Wimbledon, Glyndebourne. 01-828 1678.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.

6.30 Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Mike Smith. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; gardening advice between 7.30 and 7.45; horoscopes at 8.33; food and cooking hints between 8.30 and 9.00.

9.00 MacLeod's Russia. Donny MacLeod joins the holiday makers at the Black Sea resort of Yalta (r). **9.30 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School,** presented by Liz Watts (r).

10.55 International Golf from Wentworth. Harry Carpenter introduces live action from the first round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship. The commentators are Peter Alliss, Clive Clark, Bruce Critchley and Alex Hay (also on this channel at 1.45 and on BBC 2 at 3.55 with highlights at 10.25).

1.00 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Coverdale. The weather prospects come from Bill Giles. 1.27 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles). **1.30 Heads and Tails.** A See-Saw programme for the very young (r).

1.45 International Golf. Further coverage of the first round in the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship at Wentworth. 3.53 Regional news (not London).

3.55 Play School, presented by Floella Benjamin. **4.15 Six Classic Fairy Tales.** Sheila Hancock reads the fifth, Hans Andersen's, The Emperor's New Clothes. **4.25 The Record Breakers** presented by Roy Castle who faces champion custard pie throwers (r).

4.50 So You Want to be Top. Not-to-be-missed advice for potential teacher's pets (r). **5.05 Codename Icarus.** The final episode and Martin must make the most important decision of his life.

5.40 Sixty Minutes begins with news from Jan Leeming; then weather at 5.54; regional magazines at 5.55; ending with news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 The Pink Panther Show. Three cartoons featuring the indefatigable feline.

7.00 Fame. More drama from New York's High School for the Performing Arts with, this week, Leroy's athletics prowess convincing Quentin Morloch that he could win a sports scholarship to a university.

7.50 Odd One Out. Quiz show presented by Paul Daniels.

8.20 The Time of Your Life. Noel Edmonds re-creates a month from the early 1930s when tonight's guest had just left the chorus to give her first major performance.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.

9.25 Starsky and Hutch. The two policemen investigate the murder of a night-club girl who had previously been in the force and a girlfriend of Starsky's (r).

10.15 Pinkerton's Progress. Comedy series about the staff of a minor public school. Starring Derek Farr (r).

10.45 News headlines and weather.

10.50 Film: Pete 'n' Tillie (1972) starring Walter Matthau and Carol Burnett. A comedy drama about the courtship, marriage and separation of a middle-aged couple. Directed by Martin Ritt. Ends at 12.35.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.35 and 7.33; best food buys at 6.40 and 8.45; fishing news at 6.45; exercises at 6.50 and 9.15; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.13; Popeye cartoon at 7.23; Joanna Lumley at 7.40 and 8.15; pop video at 7.55; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.20; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.33

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. **9.30 For Schools:** Butterflies and moths. 9.50 History to be found in schools. 10.09 A 14-year-old comes to terms with spina bifida. 10.26 The pleasure of poetry. 10.46 A-level chemistry experiments. 11.05 The final episode of the drama about "latchkey" children. 11.22 Cartoon version of Rossini's overture, The Thieving Magpie. 11.40 Courtship and intercourse.

11.55 Wattoo-Wattoo. Cartoon series. **12.00 Alfie Atkins** in another adventure with his invisible friend, Moggie. **12.10 Rainbow.** Learning with puppets (Oracle titles page 170). **12.30 The English Garden.** Part one of a seven-programme series tracing the history of the English garden. The narrator is John Gielgud (r).

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 About Britain. The story of Barbara Wood who has lived the life of a recluse in Cardigan Castle without electricity, gas or mains water.

2.00 Look Who's Talking. Derek Batey in conversation with veteran comedian and actor, Jimmy Jewel. **2.30 Return of the Saint.** Mr Templar fights for the life of a beautiful secret agent in the Italian Alps (r). **3.30 Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.20 Cartoon:** Tweety Pie. **4.25 The Wind in the Willows.** Badger is ousted from his sett by the weasels. **4.50 Freetime** (Oracle titles page 170). **5.15 The Young Doctors.**

5.45 News 6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show.

7.00 Winner Takes All. The first of a new series of quiz shows presented by Jimmy Tarbuck.

7.30 Survival Special: The Mysterious Journey. The story of the migration of the antelope in the Southern Sudan and of two tribes that live along the route of the migrating animals (Oracle titles page 170) (see Choice).

8.30 That's My Boy. Comedy series starring Mollie Sugden as the possessive mother of an adult man (Oracle titles page 170).

9.00 Marlowe – Private Eye. The last investigation of the series and the indefatigable 'tec stumbles across drug addiction when he looks into the deaths of a film star and his director (Oracle titles page 170) (see Choice).

10.00 News.

10.30 The London Programme examines the story behind the lock-out of the National Front student by fellow students of North London Polytechnic.

11.00 Shoot Pool! The first semifinal in the John Bull Bitter London Pool Championships.

12.00 South of Watford. Ben Elton with the latest news on London's entertainments scene.

12.30 Highway Patrol* Vintage American crime series starring Broderick Crawford (r) followed by **Night Thoughts**



Kichepo woman: Mysterious Journey (ITV, 7.30 pm)

BBC 2

6.05 Open University: Maths Methods: Projectiles. 6.30 Engineering Mechanics. 6.55 Images: Holography at Work. 7.20 Organic Chemistry. 7.45 Moving Muscles. Ends at 8.10.

9.00 Ceefax.

9.08 Daytime on Two: The grain mountains of the United States. 9.30 Pregnant women discuss their feelings towards their unborn. 9.52 Sex education for pre-teenagers. Why a man is needed to create a baby in a woman. 10.15 The role of micronutrients. 10.40 Mindstretchers.

10.45 Ceefax. 11.00 Subjects for children's art projects. 11.22 Tinned pineapples and baked beans. With subtitles for the hearing impaired. 11.44 Life and social skills. 12.05 A bank's computer system. **12.30 Ceefax.** 2.01 The distribution of money and wealth. 2.30 The work of a cartoonist. **2.50 Ceefax.**

3.55 International Golf. Coverage of the first round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship.

5.05 Weekend Outlook. A preview of the weekend's Open University programmes.

5.10 Sol-Solar Energy Research in Europe. An Open University production that takes a look at the various solar energy projects that are taking place in Europe.

5.35 News summary with subtitles.

5.40 Film: The Law West of Tombstone* (1938) starring Harry Carey and Tim Holt. A tongue-in-cheek western about a gunman-turned-marshal who joins forces with the notorious Tonto Kid to fight the ruthless McQuinn gang. Directed by Glenn Tryon.

6.50 Eight Days a Week presented by Robin Denselow. Reviews of the week's top rock and pop events, videos and records.

7.20 America. Part five of Alistair Cooke's personal history of the United States (r).

8.10 My Music. Delightful music quiz chaired by Steve Race.

8.35 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton and Roy Lancaster in Dick Banks's garden, Hergest Croft, Kington, Herefordshire.

9.00 Empire. Part three of the six-episode comedy about big business in the United States.

9.25 All Our Working Lives. The changes that have taken place for the farm worker from the 1930s to the present (Ceefax titles page 170).

10.25 International Golf. Highlights of the first round in the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship at Wentworth.

11.00 Newsnight.

11.45 Jazz at the Park featuring the Lennie Best Quintet. Ends at 12.20.

CHOICE

● **MYSTERIOUS JOURNEY** (ITV, 7.30pm), the latest wildlife film from Anglia Television's Survival Special unit, has a cast of a million, though I gave up the count at roughly the thousand mark. There is, in any case, much more than the merely statistical to grab the attention in Richard and Julia Kemp's account of the annual mass migration of white-eared kob antelope across the flood plains of southern Sudan. The local tribesmen, for example, knocking lumps out of one another in a stick fight; the hunt for antelope at a river crossing (the lopped-off ears are strung up in the future mother-in-law's hut to convince her that her daughter has made a wise choice); and the silhouette of wildlife against a setting sun that has now become something of a Survival Special trademark.

● **SMART-ALECK KILL** (ITV, 9.00pm) brings down the curtain on the short season of thrillers sculpted from the Raymond Chandler stories. They have varied in quality: tonight's tale, with a Hollywood setting, is one of the best of the bunch. Like the others, it is an Anglo-American hybrid, filmed on both sides of the Atlantic. And, like the rest, it will almost certainly defeat you if you embark on the exercise of trying to determine which bits were filmed over there, and which bits were filmed over here. Powers Boothe may not be everybody's idea of Philip Marlowe, but he is mine.

● **PLATO TO NATO** (Radio 4, 4.10pm), Brian Redhead's seven-part analysis of the development of political thought since the year dot, did justice to Plato and Aristotle last week and I suspect that, provided we gave our radio set the full attention it deserved, many of us will have managed to stay the course, and be glad we did so. Today: Augustine and Aquinas. . . . If you missed last Sunday's transmission of the penultimate episode of Betty Davies's faithful adaptation of Dickens's **OUR MUTUAL FRIEND,** there is another chance to hear it today (Radio 4, 3.00pm). These are the darkest, wildest, chapters of the masterly novel.

● For music, I recommend Christian Blackshaw's performance of Liszt's Sonata in B minor (Radio 3, 8.35pm) in the second half of his piano recital, and the Alban Berg Quartet playing Beethoven's Rasumovsky – the String Quartet in E minor, Op 59, No 2 (Radio 3, 10.35pm).

Peter Davalle

CHANNEL 4

5.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. Part two of the story An Explosive Affair in which the hapless radio station is threatened by a hidden bomb. The two disc jockeys, Dr Johnny Fever and Venus Flytrap are broadcasting from the transmitter, unaware that the bomb is planted there. Fever, in a fit of pique, breaks the telephone link to the main station, thereby isolating himself and his colleague from any assistance they might need.

5.30 The Addams Family. Ghoulish comedy with this week, cousin Itt being put forward as the local zoo's new curator, while the authorities want to make him an exhibit.

6.00 High Band. Blondie's video album – Eat to the Beat.

7.00 Channel Four News.

7.30 Right to Reply presented by Gus MacDonald.

8.00 A Week in Politics. Peter Jay interviews Neil Kinnock about Labour Party policies and prospects and Vivian White talks to Edward Heath on the subject of Hong Kong.

8.40 What the Papers Say. A review of the week's output from Fleet Street by George Gale of The Daily Express.

9.00 Babble. The first in a new panel game series, presented by Peter Purves. Two teams of celebrities attempt to outwit each other by describing a word without using the word itself in the description. This week's teams comprise Lynda Bellingham, David Hamilton, Jenny Hanley, Christopher Matthew, Richard O'Sullivan and Willie Rushton.

9.30 It Takes a Worried Man. The world-weary Roath finds himself learning the innermost heartaches of both his psychiatrist, who is having trouble with his boyfriend and his boss, who finds Roath a convenient person on to whom he can unload all his troubles.

10.00 Cheers. More laughter from the Boston bar as a grief-stricken Coach plans to throw a party for his late baseball friend only to discover that the dead man once propositioned his wife. Diane helps Coach through this worrying period by means of psychology.

10.30 Sex Matters. The third programme in the series and homosexual couples talk about their experiences, pleasures and difficulties.

11.15 The Late Clive James. Music is the topic tonight with guests Luciano Pavarotti, Zubin Mehta and Norman St John Stevas.

12.20 Ian Breakwell's Continuous Diary.

12.25 Jazz at the Gateway. Oscar Peterson introduces the Arild Andersen Quartet and the Stan Tracey Sextet.

1.05 Closedown.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; Weather.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Prayer. 6.55, 7.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.50 Letters. 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 My Kind of Music. Dirk Bogarde plays some of his favourite records†.
9.45 Feedback. Colin Semper pursues listeners' criticisms of, and questions about, the BBC and its programmes.
10.00 News; International Assignment.
10.30 Morning Story: "Winning" by Jill Norris. Read by Shirley Dixon.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News: Travel: Analysis.
11.48 Natural Selection. In appreciation of lice.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer advice.
12.27 My Music. Musical panel game. The team: John Amis and Frank Muir, and Ian Wallace and Denis Norden. Putting the questions: Steve Race (r)†. 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Bristol. Includes items about a floating arts centre, and food from our hedgerows. There is also the third instalment of Eileen Hunter's book Vanished with the Rose, read by Pauline Letts.
3.00 News; Our Mutual Friend by Charles Dickens (9). Adapted by Betty Davies (r).
4.00 News; Time for Verse. Poets of a Changing World. Today's selection of poems, presented by George Deacon, is read by Rod Beacham and Brian Glover.
4.10 Plato to Nato. An introduction to political thought. (2) Augustine and Aquinas. With Brian Redhead. Also taking part are Dr Antony Black, of the University of Dundee, and Dr Janet Coleman, of the University of Exeter.
4.40 Story Time: "The Old Nurse's Story" by Mrs Gaskell (2). Read by Valerie Windsor.
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather: Programme News.
6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of transport and travel.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard†.
8.20 Profile. John Jacobs and his golfing superstars.
8.45 Ĉu Demandoj? Any Questions? from the 68th British Congress of Esperanto held in Weston-super-Mare. Tonight's team: Professor Ted Wragg, Jeffrey Archer, Gavin Laird (general secretary of the AUEW) and Virginia Bottomley, MP. In the chair: David Jacobs.
9.30 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Topics include Robin Chapman's Isiah's Farm at the Theatre Royal, Stratford. The Cherry Orchard, at the Haymarket, Leicester; the film Man of Flowers; and David Malouf's book Harland's Half Acre.
10.15 A Book At Bedtime: "Falls the Shadow" by Emanuel Litvinoff. Read by Nigel Graham (5).
10.30 The World Tonight: News.
11.00 Today in Parliament.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Week Ending. A satirical review of the week's news. With Bill Wallis, and the regular team.

England: VHF as above except: 6.25-6.30am Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools. 1.55-2.00 Listening Corner. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00am Study on 4. 11.00 Action Makes the Heart Grow Stronger. 11.30 Prefaces to Shakespeare "Othello". 12.30-1.10am Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: Software Review (1).

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Weber's Clarinet Concerto Op 74 (Janet Hilton, soloist); Chopin's Waltz in C sharp minor Op 64, No 2 (Horowitz); Rimsky-Korsakov's The Golden Cockerel suite; †8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Couperin's Suite de Simphonie en trio (Les Nations); Brahms's Nanie, Op 82; Berlioz's Menuet des Follets: March Hongroise; Ballet des Sylphes (Damnation de Faust); Babell's Concerto in C for recorder and strings. †9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Dallapiccola. The one-act opera Il Prigioniero. Dorati conducts the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington. Soloists include Maurizio Massieri and Giulia Barrera, Gabor Carelli and Ray Harrell. With the University of Maryland Chorus.†
10.00 Bournemouth Sinfonietta: Rossini's overture Barber of Seville, Tchaikovsky' Valse Scherzo: Serenade melancolique; Berkeley's Violin C concerto (Ronald Thomas, soloist) and Mozart's Symphony No 31.†
11.10 Anthony Rolfe Johnson and David Willison: tenor and piano recital. Works by Schubert, Britten (Seven sonnets of Michelangelo) and Hahn. (Five Songs from Venezia)†
12.00 BBC Welsh SO: part one. Sibelius's Symphony No 2. †1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
1.20 BBC Welsh SO: part two. Mendelssohn's Symphony No 4.
2.00 University of Wales Recital: Peter Donohoe (piano) plays Beethoven's Sonata in A flat Op 110; Prokofiev's Sonata No 9 Op 103; Debussy's L'isle joyeuse; Brahms' Six Clavierstuke Op 118; Chopin's Sonata in B minor, Op 58.
4.00 Choral Evensong: live from Peterborough Cathedral. The Master of the Music is Christopher Gower. †4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of David Hoult's selections.
6.30 Music for Guitar: recital by Turibio Santos. Works by Sor, Radames Gnatalli, Luis Gonzaga, and Santos (Three Songs). †
7.00 Holst, Father and Daughter: The Choral Fantasia (Baker/Purcell Singers/English Chamber Orchestra); and Nocturne for Strings. The conductor is Imogen Holst. †
7.30 Christian Blackshaw: piano recital. Mozart's Sonata in A minor K 310; and various works by Brahms, including Ballade in G minor Op 118 No 3; and Intermezzo in E flat, Op 117 No 1.
8.15 Scenes from the life of A C Benson: The reader is Paul Brook. The presenter is Donald Bancroft (r).
8.35 Christian Blackshaw: recital. Part two. Liszt's Sonata in B minor. †
9.15 BBC Scottish SO: with David Campbell (clarinet). Copland's Appalachian Spring; Finzi's Clarinet Concerto; and Martinu's Concerto for double string orchestra, piano and timpani.
10.35 Beethoven. Alban Berg Quartet play the String Quartet in E minor, Op 52 No 2.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

VHF only. Open University: 6.15-6.55am. 6.15 Images of the Divine. 6.35 The Geneva Episode. 11.20pm-11.40 British Intelligence Scale.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 9.00pm). Major bulletins. 7.00am, 8.00, 1.00pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines: 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30am (mf/mw) 4.00am Colin Berry† 5.30 Ray Moore† 7.30 Terry Wogan† incl. 8.31 Racing. 10.00 Jimmy Young† 12.00pm Steve Jones 1.05; 2.02 Sports. 2.05 Gloria Hunniford† incl. 3.02 Sports Desk. 3.30 Music All The Way† incl. 4.02 Sports Desk. 4.05 David Hamilton† incl 5.05; 6.02 Sports Desk. 6.05 John Dunn† incl. 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 7.30 Cricket Scores. 8.00 Friday Night is Music Night at Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. Heinz Geese conducts the BBC Concert Orchestra with singers Joan Savage and John Lawrenson and guest pianists Christine and Sandy Blair. The programme is introduced by Robin Boyle† 9.15 The Organist Entertains (profile of Ernest Broadbent). 9.55 Sports. 10.00 The Best Of Bentine. 10.30 Sounds of Wales. 11.00 Jeremy Beadle's Nightcap. A new series of late-night entertainment with guests, games, comedy and music plus the chance to win typically generous BBC prizes in the Nightcap Quiz 1.00am Jean Challis presents Nightride† 3.00-4.00 Night Owls with Dave Gelly†

Radio 1

News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 8.30pm and then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (mf/mw)
6.00am Mark Page. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Gary Davies, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Adrian John. 4.30 Select-a-Disc with Janice Long. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable with Richard Skinner. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance (stereo from 10.00). VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 10.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 6.30 Pageant of the Past. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 Patrick Martyn's Music Box. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 The World of Singing. 8.30 Women of Mystery. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Album Time. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme 11.00 World News. 11.09 News About Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter 11.30 Meridian. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.09 Twenty Four Hours. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Letterbox 2.30 John Peel 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Science in Action. 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-Four hours 8.30 Middlemarch. 9.00 Network UK 9.15 Music Now. 9.45 Villette 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Fathers – Who Needs Them?. 12.00 World News. 12.09 News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah And Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Classical Record Review. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network UK. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 The Mutiny of HMS Bounty. 4.45 Financial News. 4.55 Reflections. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Review of the British Press. 5.15 About Britain. 5.45 The World Today.

All times in GMT

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

BBC1 Wales: 1.27 pm-1.30 News of Wales headlines. 3.53-3.55 News of Wales headlines. 5.55 Wales Today. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.42 am Film: Pete 'n' Tillie (as BBC1 10.50 pm). 12.42 Weather. **Scotland:** 1.25-1.30pm The Scottish News, 5.55 Scotland: Sixty minutes. 10.15-10.45 The Beechgrove Garden. 10.45-11.13 Agenda. 11.13-11.15 News. 11.15-12.50am Film: Two People (1972) (Peter Fonda, Lindsay Wagner) 12.50 Close. **Northern Ireland:** 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 As I Roved Out. 10.45-10.50 News and weather. 10.50-12.30am Film: The Pursuit of Happiness (1970) (Michael Sarrazin, Barbara Hershey). 12.30 News and weather. **England:** 5.55pm Regional news magazines. 10.15 **East** Weekend. **Midlands** Behind the Wall (2). **North** A Chance to Meet . . . Marti Caine. **North East** Coast to Coast. **North West** Outlook. **South** Southern Life. **South West** West Country Tales. **West** Soldiers First. 12.35am Close.

S4C Starts: 2.00pm Yn Eu Cynefin. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Dyd. 2.55 Old Country. 3.20 Good Food Show. 3.50 Everybody Here. 4.15 Countdown. 4.45 Lan Lofft. 5.00 Fflach Heulyn. 5.30 Addams Family. 6.00 High Band. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Taro Tant. 8.00 Pushing The Limits. 8.30 Cheers. 9.00 Glas Y Dorlan. 9.30 Y Byd Yn Ei Le. 10.15 Film: Sharma and Beyond: Love story produced by David Puttnam. 12.00 Soap. 12.30am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

HTV As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Watusi (George Montgomery). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Joanie Loves Chachi. 6.00 News. 6.30 In The Garden. 10.30 West This Week. 11.00 Darts. 11.30 Lou Grant. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 9.30am-9.45 Wales And The Sea. 11.05-11.20 About Wales. 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six. 10.30 Elinor. 11.15 Snooker. 11.45 Lou Grant. 12.45am Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00 Film: Your Money or Your Wife. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.02 Vintage Quiz. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Film: Psychic Killer. 1.30am Christian Calendar, Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 1.20pm News. 1.30 Film: Dodsworth (Walter Huston). 3.20-3.30 Little Skate. 5.15-5.45 Differen't Strokes. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.35 Hill Street Blues. 11.35 Film: Love Machine (Dyan Cannon). 1.35am Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent strokes. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.30-7.00 Private Benjamin. 10.30 Country Focus. 11.00 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Bizarre. 12.30am News, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.30 Levkas Man. 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Nature Trail. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Union and the League: Jim Telfer. 10.30 Irish RM. 11.30 Darkroom. 12.20 am News, closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 1.20pm Granada Reports. 1.30 On The Market. 2.00 Film: Street Killing (Bradford Dillman). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00 News. 6.05-7.00 Weekend. 10.30 The Big Film: Once Upon a Time in the West (Charles Bronson). 1.40am Closedown.

TSW As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Latch Your Stern.* (Leslie Phillips). 3.57-4.00 Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthday. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Benson. 11.05 Film: Gone to Ground. Violence on the surf beaches. 12.25 Postscript, Closedown

SCOTTISH As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: Subway in the Sky* (Van Johnson). 3.30-4.00 Joanie Loves Chachi. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Weir's Way. 10.35 Ways and Means. 11.05 Hill Street Blues. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05 am EMI shorts. 12.35 Closedown

ULSTER As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.30-4.00 Film: Desert Mice (Alfred Marks). 5.15-5.45 Happy Days. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Church Report. 11.00 Devlin Connection. 11.55 Witness. 12.00 News, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Falcon Crest. 3.00-3.30 In Loving Memory. 5.15-5.45 Take the High Road. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 University Challenge. 10.30 Boat Show. 11.00 Irish RM. 12.00 Marie Gordon Price in Concert. 12.30am Company. Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Watch Your Stern.* 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55 What's on Where. 10.34 Benson. 11.00 Film: Gone to Ground. 12.20am Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Subway in the Sky* (Van Johnson). 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00-7.00 Calendar. 10.30 Sweeney. 11.30 Timeless Land. 12.30 am Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: The Amsterdam Affair (1968). 5.15-5.45 University Challenge. 6.00 About Anglia. 7.00-7.30 Gambit. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Magnum. 12.45 am For Faith and Family, closedown.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; **LBC** 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; **BBC Radio London** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service** MF 648kHz/463m.

Lethal build-up of methane to blame for blast

Continued from page 1

help, there has been a terrible disaster".

Mr Lacey was one of the nine who died.

Water authority officials said that the valve house was ventilated but the tunnel was not. It is thought that water pumped to the outfall at the valve level house could have carried methane into the building where it is possible that some of the visitors were smoking. There was no smoking ban in force.

Scientists were trying to establish yesterday whether methane could have percolated into the tunnel from the surrounding ground strata or whether an accumulation of vegetable matter had rotted in the concrete-lined, 8½ft diameter tunnel leading from the pumping station to the valve house, which was set into the river bank.

The Abbeystead outfall was part of the North West Water Authority's Lancashire conjunctive use scheme, a water supply project to help in meeting the region's expected increases in water demand during the 1980s.

Under the scheme up to 62 million gallons of water a day is extracted from the Lune near Lancaster and pumped through a pipeline and tunnel to augment the flow of the Wyre at Abbeystead. Water would then be extracted from the Wyre and delivered to a treatment plant near by.

The point of extraction on the Lune has screening facilities to ensure that no branches, leaves, or even fish, are let through a tunnel to settling tanks and a pumping station.

The tunnel from the pumping station has no intermediate access point. At its deepest it is 525ft below ground.

Mr Bryan Oldfield, chief executive of the North West Water Authority, said yesterday: "When we get to the bottom of the explanation of this disaster I think we will uncover a train of events that none of us could have suspected."

The consulting engineers said that the most likely explanation was a build-up of decaying vegetable matter somewhere in the tunnel.

Mr Oldfield said, however: "That should be impossible, but I above all must not speculate. I was told during the night that, even if it had been raw sewage, it could not have produced the amount of gas that was needed to blow two-and-a-half ton concrete beams through the earth cover that had been landscaped over them."

Mr Ian Ritchie, divisional manager for the authority, confirmed that there were no methane detectors at the site, and that the weekly visit of inspection did not include any tests for methane.

"We would not usually test for methane at a river extraction", he said. "This system was pumping water from the River Lune, a prime river which supports salmon and sea trout. We had no reason to expect anything but high-quality water."

The valve house, completely landscaped so that it would hardly have been noticable in the rural scene, consists of a series of chambers buried in the river bank.

The tunnel from the River Lune delivers water into two primary outfall chambers which disperse the flow and spill water into four smaller secondary chambers which discharge into four pipes, two on each side of the river.

The water chambers were covered with an iron mesh floor.

Mr Bill Orr, the water authority's construction and development manager and project engineer on the system of which the Abbeystead outfall is part, said that the transfere tunnel would frequently be unused for as long as three weeks.

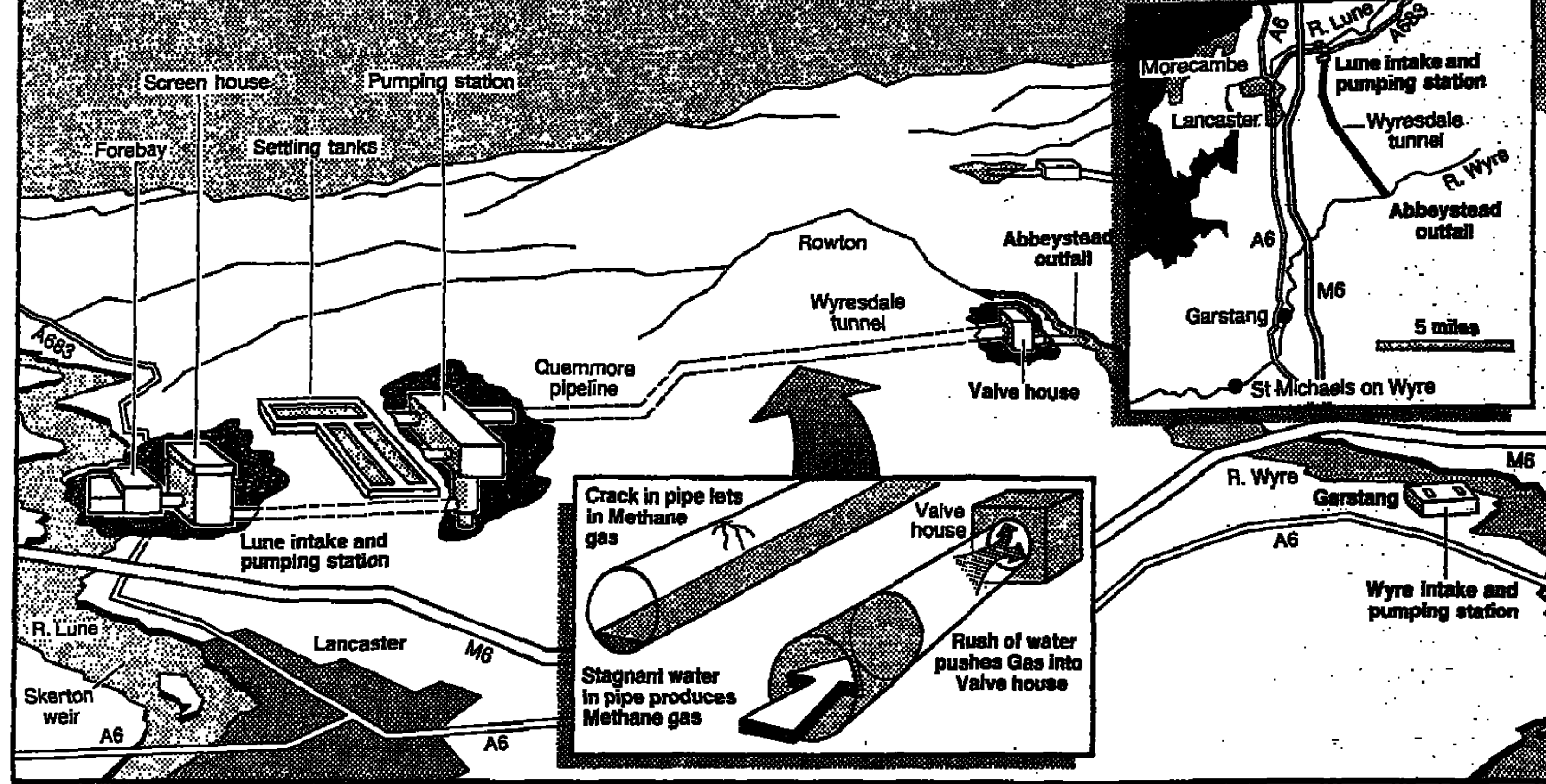
"At this time of year, and in dry weather generally, both rivers fall below the level at which we can extract water," he said.

He estimated tha the tunnel could be used for all but six weeks in most years, but in fact would be used only when there was a requirement for more drinking water in south Lancashire.

The purpose of the villagers' visit had been to give them a demonstration of the outfall in low current conditions, to prove to them that it could not contribute to the flooding problems at St Michael's.

"In fact, we would never transfer water from the Lune to the Wyre when there was abundance of water about", he said. "It would be a waste of ratepayers' money."

The nearest coal mines were on the west Cumbria coast and south of the River Ribble. "There are no old workings in the area. We are not in a coal area at all. We are at the bottom level of the coal measures, and the higher levels which would have carried coal seems were swept away in the ice age."



A diagram of the pumping system and the area in which it operates. (Graphic by David Hart).

Methane gas explosions were responsible for Britain's worst mining tragedies, and are still the main cause of death in mines around the world. In December 1886, 365 men and boys were killed at Oaks Colliery, Barnsley, and in 1913, 439 miners were killed at a colliery at Senghennydd, in the Aber Valley, Wales.

Other fatal or serious coal mine accidents involving methane explosions in the last five years are listed below.

April, 1984: 33 dead, 14 injured; eastern Yugoslavia.
November, 1983: 5 dead, 19 injured; central Yugoslavia.
July, 83: 47 dead, 19 injured; western Hungary.
June, 83: 7 dead, 3 injured; Virginia, United States.
June, 83: 14 dead, 50 injured; Aleksinac, Yugoslavia.
April, 83: 9 dead, 9 injured; Zonguldak, Turkey.
March, 83: 106 dead, 89 injured; Zonguldak, Turkey.
December, 1982: 26 injured; Keresley, near Coventry.
November, 82: 17 killed; Bytom, Poland.
September, 82: 14 killed; Baluchistan province, Pakistan.
January, 82: 40 injured; Cardowan, near Glasgow.
October, 1981: 93 killed; Yubari, Japan.
April, 81: One killed, 1 injured; Askern, South Yorkshire.
August, 1980: One killed, 10 injured: northern Yugoslavia.
April, 80: Undisclosed fatalities; Donbas region of the Ukraine.
November, 1979: Two dead, 20 injured; Poland.
October, 79: 43 killed; South Korea.
October, 79: 6 killed; north-west Spain.
July, 79: 14 killed; near Sydney, Australia.
March, 79: 10 killed; Golborne, Lancashire.



A policeman views the concrete beams blasted into the air by the Abbeystead explosion and (right) the devastated works yesterday.

A stunned village flies its flag at half mast

Continued from page 1

The news that her husband had been killed was broken to her by the Right Rev Dennis Page, bishop of Lancaster, and she was under sedation yesterday.

Mr Frank Hogarth, of St Michael's, was all set to go on the tour with his wife Linda and two children, Stephen, aged 10, and Catherine, aged eight. He then discovered that Stephen had not done his homework and as a punishment the family stayed at home. Stephen's friend, Mark Eckersley, aged 12, was killed.

Other villagers said that there was hardly a house in the community of 500 people which had not been directly affected by the tragedy. Mr David Kellett, chairman of the parish council, and his wife, Jennifer, were both injured in the explosion.

Another victim, Mr Bert Gardner, told his wife from his hospital bed that Mr Kellett had dragged him and another man to safety after they fell through the pumping station floor into a 40ft pool of water.

Mr Kellett's sister, Mrs Anne Thistlewaite, was looking after the couple's three children yesterday. She said: "That sounds just the sort of thing Dave would have done. All he said about what had happened was that there was a rumble and then a big flash. He did not mention rescuing anyone".

Mr George Tyson, another parish councillor, suffered extensive back burns. His mother, Mrs Edith Tyson, was also injured. His father, Tom, and his wife, Elizabeth, did not go on the visit.

Mrs Tyson said: "It was very lucky for me as it turned out. I had planned to go but could not get a baby sitter, George said there was just a bang and a flash and that he was thankful to get out alive".

Other villagers thought that the casualty list would have been longer if the St Michael's bowling club had not been playing that night.

Norway strike

Oslo (Reuter) – About 15,000 Norwegian civil servants, unhappy with a 5.9 per cent pay rise offer, went on strike yesterday, stopping suburban trains, closing primary schools, and reducing postal services.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester presents the Annual Award of the Norah Stucken Trust for horticultural achievement, Stationers' Hall, London, 12.40.

New exhibitions

Prints made in New York by Howard Hodgkin, Festival Gallery, 1 Pierrepont Place, Bath; Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (ends June 16)

National Exhibition of Children's Art: The Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne; Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 4.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.30: (ends July 1).

Norman Foster: Architect; Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9 (closed Sun); (ends July 28)

Early views of England and Wales: Art Gallery & Museum, Kelingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5.

Bedford's Architect: Henry Edmund Goodridge: Beckford's Tower, Lansdown, Bath: Sat and Sun 2 to 5; (ends Oct 28)

New Guinea: photographs exhibition; Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham. Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends July 21)

Last chance to see

Recent works by Robert Jenkins, The Ginnel Gallery, Lloyds House, 16 Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.

Music

Concert by the Halle Orchestra, City Hall, Perth, 7.30.

Ayshire Arts Festival: Jazz Concert, Troon Concert Hall, Ayr, 8.

Music by Holst by the Orchestra of Trinity College of Music, London, at Thaxted Parish Church, Essex 7.30.

Concert of chamber music by Nicola and Alexandra Bibby (piano) and Paul Edlin (trumpet), Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, 7.30.

Bath Festival: Concert by the Richard Hickcox Singers and the City of London Sinfonia, Bath Abbey, 7.

General

West Country Boat Show, The Harbour, Torquay, 10.30 to 7, (until May 28).

Contemporary Art Fair, Assembly Rooms, Bath, Fri to Sun 10.30 to 7, Mon 10.30 to 6, (until May 28).

Oxfordshire Visual Artists Week: events throughout Oxfordshire; details from Artwork Information Centre, Museum of Modern Art, Pembroke St, Oxford; (ends June 3)

Exhibitions in progress

The architecture of Philip Webb: Cleveland Crafts Centre, 57 Gilkes Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland; Mon to Sat 12 to 5 (until June 2).

Work by Gregor M. Smith; Lillie Art Gallery, Station Road, Milngavie, Strathclyde; Tues to Fri 11 to 5 and 7 to 9, Sat and Sun 2 to 5, closed Mon; (ends May 26).

Paintings and lithographs by John Bellany, Maclaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends June 6).

New French painting, John Hansard Gallery, Southampton University; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun; (ends June 9).

Max Ernst, 1891-1976: gold and silver sculptures, The Winchester Gallery, Park Ave, Winchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat and Sun 2 to 6; (ends June 2).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,439

ACROSS

1 Awful wrath at being in opposition (7).
5 Not a rough passage, this route (7).
9 What Mab is dancing in Brazil, perhaps (5).
10 Giving a meal to introduce a flotation (9).
11 Braggart's forte is to rant (4-5).
12 One who must lie without being found out (5).
13 Not quite beseeched, but certainly encouraged (5).
15 Execute, with an axe perhaps? (9).
18 Where Rassendyl went to ruin tiara, perhaps (9).
19 Printed, but classified (5).
21 Device for measuring the flow at bottle-necks (5).
23 Failure of analytical technique (9).
25 Make short work of choice eating bird (9).
26 Moab's ruined pulpits (5).
27 When these are delivered people tend to be out (7).
28 Smart girl in partnership with three men (7).

DOWN

1 Pardon the sailor his fickle loves (7).
2 Germany's Mr Beefcake? (9).
3 How to frighten a probationary member (5).
4 He remains earthy until real transmigration (9).
5 Just the literary dog to put up birds (5).
6 Just beginning in chapter one could be inept (9).
7 Motor turning, if this were heard (5).
8 Health food the railway ought perhaps to offer (7).
14 Investigator of the French connection etc involved in drinking den (9).
16 Office avowedly intended for finding employment (9).
17 Feeling good about bishop's spurge (9).
18 Its members sound to have good cause to join this colony (7).
20 Line made by several rulers (7).
22 German city judge (5).
23 This can be rubbed to get money (5).
24 Right dress on parade (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,438

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword with an additional set of concise clues will appear in the *Saturday* section tomorrow.

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Anniversaries

Births: **Ralph Waldo Emerson**, poet and essayist, Boston, Massachusets, 1803; **Jacob Burckhardt**, art historian, Basel, 1818; **Max Aitken**, 1st Baron Beaverbrook, Maple, Ontario, 1879.

Deaths: **Pedro Calderon de la Barca**, dramatist and poet, Madrid, 1681; **Gustav Holst**, London, 1934.

National Days

Jordan's National Day today celebrates the anniversary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan, founded in 1946. The League of Nations's mandate, under which Britain had ruled the country since 1922, ended and Amir Abdullah was proclaimed its first king. The country was renamed Jordan in 1949 after it had annexed the West Bank during the war with Israel.

Roads

London and South East: Delays in Chelsea and approaches all day due to Chelsea Flower Show. A41: Edgware Way, W of Apex Corner (A1), one lane in each direction. A2028: Temporary lights at Riverhead, near Sevenoaks.

Midlands: A47: Temporary lights during working hours on approach to Guyhirn Bridge, Cambridgeshire. A34: Winchester to Preston Rd, diversion at Tidmington, Warwickshire. A38: All traffic sharing the southbound carriageway between the Watchorn Island (A61 junction) at Alfreton and the motorway (M1) roundabout at junction 28 near Matlock, Derbyshire.

The North: A689: Delays between Newton Bewley and Caxton Bank, Cleveland. A57: Delays at Manchester Rd, Rivelin Dams, Sheffield. Queensway Tunnel, closed at Mersey Tunnels, between 9.15pm and 5.45am.

Wales and West: M5: Between junctions 12 and 13 southbound entry slip Rd closed at junction 13, diversions via junction 14, lane closures both carriageways. A361: Delays at Barnstaple to South Molton at Newport. A470: Delays at Merthyr Rd at North Rd flyover in Cardiff. N and Southbound carriageway lane closures.

Scotland: A914: Delays of A913 junction. A92: Delays at A909 junction with Burnt Islands roundabout. A823: Bridge parapet damage S of Glenevon.

Information supplied by the AA

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Spring adjournment debates.

Resurfacing

The Automobile Association warns drivers travelling over the Bank Holiday weekend to beware of "blackout roads". The road resurfacing season has started and many roads have no line markings. Loose chippings are another danger on resurfaced roads.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.59	1.51
Austria Sch	27.90	26.30
Belgium Fr	80.75	76.75
Canada $	1.83	1.76
Denmark Kr	14.40	13.70
Finland Mkk	8.37	7.92
France Fr	12.10	11.50
Germany DM	3.91	3.73
Greece Dr	159.00	149.00
Hongkong $	11.14	10.54
Ireland	1.28	1.22
Italy Lira	2140.00	2310.00
Japan Yen	332.00	316.00
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.21
Norway Kr	11.19	10.64
Portugal Esc	197.00	187.00
South Africa Rd	2.16	2.02
Spain Pta	215.50	204.50
Sweden Kr	11.63	11.03
Switzerland Fr	3.24	3.07
USA $	1.42	1.37
Yugoslavia Dnr	194.00	182.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 345.1.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 21.2 at 826.4.

Food prices

Jersey Royal potatoes are in the shops now, and at 42 to 50p per lb they are in the luxury class, but as the skins are so thin there is little waste. The other vegetable to look out for is the France Nantes carrot at 20 to 30p per lb. Two new additions to the already large supply of apples available, are New Zealand Sturmers, 40 to 45p per lb and Red Delicious, 30 to 40p per lb.

Home produced lambs are more plentiful and the average price is down 6p per lb on leg and shoulder cuts. Whole leg is £1.75 to £2.29p per lb and £1.04 to £1.51 for shoulder per lb. New Zealand lamb on special offer from now until the June 9 and are selling whole legs from £1.28 per lb and whole shoulders from 68p per lb. They also have whole lambs from £22.30 and sides from £12.30 each. Although wholesale prices for beef have increased slightly, the retail market is steady. Sainsbury's have topside and silverside at £1.94 per lb, and Fine Fare have rump steak at £2.78p per lb. Some pork cuts are up a penny per lb and boneless shoulder from 98p to £1.34 per lb. Safeway's home produced fresh pork ribs and loin chops are down 30p per lb to £1.24 and £1.29 respectively.

Top films

The top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Against All Odds
2 (3) Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes
3 (4) Silkwood
4 (2) Terms of Endearment
5 (6) Yentl
6 (8) Footloose
7 (5) The Dead Zone
8 (7) Swann In Love
9 (9) The Dresser
10 (-) Carmen

The top ten films in the provinces:
1 *Police Academy*
2 Against All Odds
3 Yentl
4 The Dead Zone
5 Footloose

Supplied by Screen International

The papers

The Daily Star says: "Were there ever two greater chumps than Arthur Scargill and Ian MacGregor?" It adds that even though talks between Mr MacGregor and Mr Scargill ended in farce all is not lost in the attempt to end the miners strike. Mr Scargill accepts a plan to set up a small working party with the Coal Board, but he hasn't changed his demands. It says: "There might be, just might, be progress, as long as Mr Scargill and Mr Ian MacGregor have to sit down in the same room together."

The Daily Express says that the cobwebs are about to be blown away from the legal profession, after a conference for solicitors in London endorsed the proposal that lawyers should be free to advertise their services and prices. It adds: "Quite right too. The customer should know what is on offer in conveyancing, trusts, libel or divorce. For far too long the legal trade has been wrapped in gobbledegook masquerading as 'expertise'. With advertising and competition the wrapping will have to come off."

Weather forecast

A weak frontal trough will move E across England and Wales clearing SE England by midnight.

6am to midnight

London, SE England, E Anglia: Sunny periods, scattered showers developing, heavy at times, wind N, light or moderate, warm, max temp 20C (68F).

Central S, E England, Midlands (E), Channel Islands: Sunny periods, becoming cloudy wit showers, heavy at times, clearing later, wind NW, moderate, max temp 18C (64F).

SW, NW, Central N, NE England, S, N Wales, Lake District: Rain at first, then sunny periods, wind N, light to moderate, max temp 18C (64F).

Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny periods, wind N, light to moderate, max temp 18C (64F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Sny periods, rather cloudy with rain later, wind N, light or moderate, max temp 17C (63F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Clear or sunny intervals with showers heavy at times, generally cooler.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): wind NW light or moderate, visibility moderate with fog patches, sea slight. **St George's Channel, Irish Sea:** wind N moderate or fresh, showers, visibility moderate with fog patches, becoming cool, sea moderate.

Sun rises: 4.56 am **Sun sets:** 9.0 pm
Moon rises: 3.20 am **Moon sets:** 3.5 pm
New moon: May 30.

Lighting-up time

London 9.30 pm to 4.25 am
Bristol 9.40 pm to 4.34 am
Edinburgh 10.07 pm to 4.12 am
Manchester 9.49 pm to 4.28 am
Penzance 9.45 pm to 4.52 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

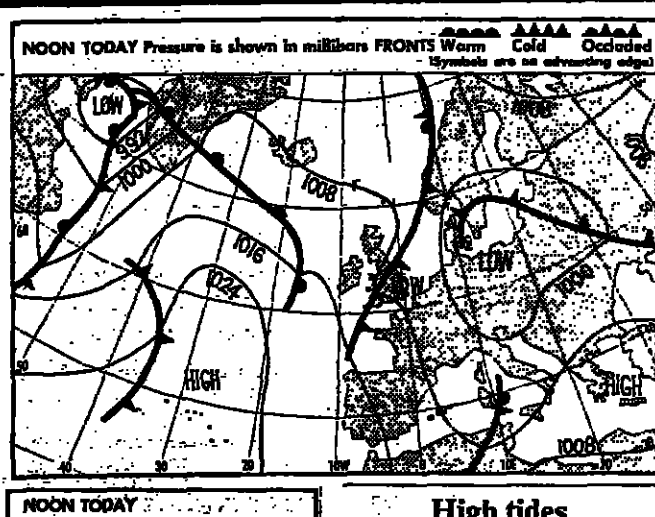
		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	14	57	Guernsey	s	15	59
Birmingham	s	22	72	Inverness	c	13	55
Blackpool	f	14	57	Jersey	s	15	59
Bristol	s	21	70	London	s	21	70
Cardiff	f	17	63	Manchester	s	22	72
Edinburgh	r	18	64	Newcastle	s	16	61
Glasgow	s	18	64	Ronaldsway	c	11	52

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 23C (73F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 12C (54F). Humidity: 6 pm, 48 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.04in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 10.6. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,007.2 millibars rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to:
Sally-Anne Wilkins, TTIS, The Times, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.





b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.50	5.8	11.09	5.7
Aberdeen	10.25	3.3	11.24	3.4
Avonmouth	3.47	9.8	4.15	9.8
Belfast	8.13	2.9	8.54	2.8
Cardiff	3.32	9.2	4.00	9.2
Devonport	2.01	4.3	2.53	4.3
Dover	8.21	5.1	8.34	5.5
Falmouth	1.13	4.1	2.23	4.1
Glasgow	9.43	3.9	10.44	3.8
Harwich	9.10	3.4	9.19	3.3
Holyhead	7.29	4.5	8.20	4.4
Hull	3.32	5.4	3.22	5.8
Ilfracombe	2.48	6.9	3.22	6.8
Leith	11.41	4.4	-	-
Liverpool	8.14	7.5	8.56	7.5
Lowestoft	7.10	2.1	8.20	2.0
Margate	9.18	3.9	9.16	3.9
Milford Haven	3.08	5.3	3.44	5.3
Newquay	2.07	5.4	2.42	5.4
Oban	3.12	3.2	3.39	3.0
Penzance	1.17	4.3	2.05	4.3
Portland	3.03	1.4	4.09	1.4
Portsmouth	8.33	3.6	9.12	3.9
Shoreham	8.17	4.6	8.52	5.0
Southampton	8.05	3.5	8.49	3.8
Swansea	3.08	7.2	3.42	7.2
Tees	12.56	4.1	12.56	4.3
Walton-on-Naze	8.59	3.4	9.08	3.3

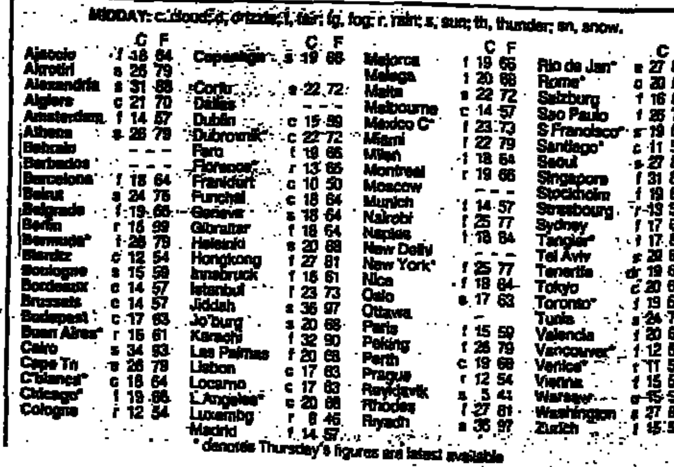
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	10.7	–	18	64	Sunny
Bridlington	11.7	–	13	55	Cloudy
Cromer	–	–	9	48	Dull
Lowestoft	4.7	–	13	55	Dull pm
Clacton	10.7	.11	19	66	Sunny
Margate	9.5	.10	16	61	Sunny
Folkestone	9.6	.19	22	72	Sunny
Hastings	9.3	.07	22	72	Sunny
Eastbourne	7.4	.13	23	73	Sunny
Brighton	10.7	.04	22	72	Sunny
Worthing	10.2	.08	24	75	Sunny
Littlehampton	11.5	.02	24	75	Sunny
Bognor R	12.0	.02	23	73	Sunny
Southsea	11.6	–	23	73	Sunny
Shanklin	12.4	–	23	73	Sunny
Bournemouth	13.1	.04	23	73	Sunny
Poole	12.3	–	23	73	Sunny
Swanage	12.0	.01	23	73	Sunny
Weymouth	12.6	–	25	77	Sunny
Exmouth	9.6	–	23	73	Sunny

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Guernsey	10.2	–	17	63	Sunny
Scilly Isles	8.4	–	14	57	Sunny
Newquay	8.9	–	13	55	Sunny
Ilfracombe	10.9	–	19	66	Dull pm
Tenby	9.8	–	21	70	Sunny
Southport	8.5	–	15	59	Sunny pm
Morecambe	9.8	–	20	68	Sunny
Douglas	4.7	–	13	55	Bright pm
London (Cntr)	10.6	.04	23	73	Sunny
B'ham (Airpt)	9.3	.35	22	72	Thundr pm
Bristol (Ctr)	11.6	–	24	75	Sunny
Cardiff (Ctr)	10.1	–	20	68	Cloudy pm
Anglesey	6.4	–	14	57	Dull am
B'pool (Airpt)	9.4	–	14	57	Bright
Manchester	10.5	.02	22	72	Shwrs pm
Nottingham	11.6	–	22	72	Sunny
N'ctl-o-Tyne	13.3	–	19	66	Sunny
Carlisle	9.1	.49	22	72	Thundr pm
Eskdalemuir	9.4	.02	22	72	Thundr pm
Prestwick	9.0	–	17	63	Sunny

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; th, thunder; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	18	64	Copenhagen	s	19	66	Majorca	f	19	66	Rio de Jan*	s	27	81
Akrotiri	s	26	79	Corfu	s	22	72	Malaga	f	20	68	Rome*	c	20	68
Alexandria	s	31	88	Dallas	-	-	-	Malta	s	22	72	Salzburg	f	16	61
Algiers	c	21	70	Dublin	c	15	59	Melbourne	c	14	57	Sao Paulo	f	26	79
Amsterdam	f	14	57	Dubrovnik	c	22	72	Mexico C*	f	23	73	S Francisco*	s	19	66
Athens	s	26	79	Faro	f	19	66	Miami	f	22	79	Santiago*	c	11	52
Bahrain	-	-	-	Florence*	r	13	55	Milan	f	18	64	Seoul	s	27	81
Barbados	-	-	-	Frankfurt	c	10	50	Montreal	r	19	66	Singapore	f	31	88
Barcelona	f	18	64	Funchal	c	18	64	Moscow	-	-	-	Stockholm	f	19	66
Beirut	s	24	75	Geneva	s	18	64	Munich	f	14	57	Strasbourg	r	13	55
Belgrade	f	19	66	Gibraltar	f	18	64	Nairobi	f	25	77	Sydney	f	17	63
Berlin	r	15	59	Helsinki	s	20	68	Naples	f	18	64	Tangier*	f	17	63
Bermuda*	f	26	79	Hongkong	f	27	81	New Delhi	-	-	-	Tel Aviv	s	29	84
Biarritz	c	12	54	Innsbruck	f	16	61	New York*	f	25	77	Tenerife	dr	19	66
Boulogne	s	15	59	Istanbul	f	23	73	Nice	f	18	64	Tokyo	c	20	68
Bordeaux	c	14	57	Jiddah	s	36	97	Oslo	s	17	63	Toronto*	f	19	66
Brussels	c	14	57	Jo'burg	s	20	68	Ottawa	-			Tunis	s	24	75
Budapest	c	17	63	Karachi	f	32	90	Paris	f	15	59	Valencia	f	20	68
Buen Aires*	r	16	61	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Peking	f	26	79	Vancouver*	f	12	54
Cairo	s	34	93	Lisbon	c	17	63	Perth	c	19	66	Venice*	r	11	52
Cape Tn	s	26	79	Locarno	c	17	63	Prague	r	12	54	Vienna	f	15	59
C'blanca*	c	18	64	L Angeles*	c	20	68	Reykjavik	s	5	41	Warsaw	c	15	59
Chicago*	f	19	66	Luxembg	r	8	46	Rhodes	f	27	81	Washington	s	27	81
Cologne	r	12	54	Madrid	f	14	57	Riyadh	s	36	97	Zurich	f	15	59

* denotes Thursday's figures are latest available